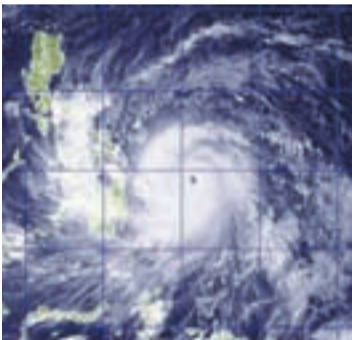


MONSTER

JIM GOMEZ
Associated Press
MANILA, Philippines (AP)
 — The world's strongest typhoon of the year slammed into the Philippines early Friday. It had been poised to be the strongest tropical cyclone ever recorded at landfall, a weather expert said.
 "There will be catastrophic damage," said Jeff Masters, a former hurricane



This image shows Typhoon Haiyan taken by the NEXSAT satellite Thursday Nov. 7, 2013.

(AP Photo/US Naval)

meteorologist who is meteorology director at the private firm Weather Underground.
 The U.S. Navy's Joint Typhoon Warning Center in Hawaii shortly before landfall said Typhoon Haiyan's maximum sustained winds were 314 kilometers per hour (195 mph), with gusts up to 379 kilometers per hour (235 mph).
 "195-mile-per-hour winds, there aren't too many buildings constructed that can withstand that kind of wind," Masters said.
 The local weather bureau had a lower reading, saying the storm's speed at landfall had sustained winds at 234 kilometers (145 miles) per hour, with gusts of 275 kph (170.88 mph). The bureau takes measures based on longer periods of time.
 Thousands of people have evacuated villages in the typhoon's path.

Continued on Page 2



Twitter signage is draped on the facade of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013 in New York. Shares of Twitter went on sale to the public for the first time Thursday, instantly leaping more than 70 percent above their offering price in a dazzling debut that exceeded even Wall Street's lofty hopes.

Iran hints nuclear plan 'backed' by 6 world powers

**GEORGE JAHN
JOHN HEILPRIN
Associated Press**

GENEVA (AP) — Iran's chief nuclear negotiator

Though Araghchi described the negotiations as "very difficult," he told Iranian state TV that he expected agreement on

ing from broad discussions over a nuclear deal to details meant to limit Tehran's ability to make atomic weapons. In return, Iran

program, which can create both reactor fuel and weapons-grade material suitable for a nuclear bomb. Iran insists it is pursuing only nuclear energy, medical treatments and research.

International negotiators representing the six powers declined to comment on Araghchi's statement. But White House spokesman Jay Carney elaborated on what the U.S. calls a "first step" of a strategy meant to ultimately contain Iran's ability to use its nuclear program to make weapons.

An initial agreement would "address Iran's most advanced nuclear activities; increase transparency so Iran will not be able to use the cover of talks to advance its program; and create time and space as we negotiate a comprehensive agreement," Carney told reporters in Washington.

The six would consider "limited, targeted and reversible relief that does not affect our core sanctions," he said, alluding to penal-

ties crippling Tehran's oil exports. If Iran reneges, said Carney, "the temporary, modest relief would be terminated, and we would be in a position to ratchet up the pressure even further by adding new sanctions." He described any temporary, initial relief of sanctions as likely "more financial rather than technical." Diplomats have previously said initial sanction roll-backs could free Iranian funds in overseas accounts and allow trade in gold and petrochemicals.

Warily watching from the sidelines, Israel warned against a partial agreement that foresees lifting sanctions now instead of waiting for a rigorous final accord that eliminates any possibility of Iran making nuclear weapons.

At a meeting with U.S. legislators in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke of "the deal of the century for Iran." While divulging no details, he said the proposed first step at Geneva "will relieve all the (sanctions) pressure inside Iran." □



EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Catherine Ashton, right, walks next to Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif, left, during a photo opportunity prior to the start of two days of closed-door nuclear talks at the United Nations offices in Geneva Switzerland, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. Six world powers are dangling the prospect of easing some sanctions against Iran if Tehran agrees to curb work that could be used to make nuclear weapons. Talks resumed Thursday between Iran and the six — The United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany.

(AP Photo/Keystone, Martial Trezzini)

signaled progress at talks with six powers Thursday on a deal to cap some of his country's atomic programs in exchange for limited relief from sanctions stifling Iran's economy, saying the six had accepted Tehran's proposals on how to proceed.

Any such agreement would only be the start of a long process to reduce Iran's potential nuclear threat with no guarantee of ultimate success. Yet even a limited accord would mark a breakthrough after nearly a decade of mostly inconclusive talks focused on limiting,

if not eliminating, Iranian atomic programs that could be turned from producing energy into making weapons.

Tehran's chief nuclear negotiator, Abbas Araghchi, told Iranian state TV that the six — the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany — "clearly said that they accept the proposed framework by Iran." He later told CNN that he thinks negotiators at the table are now "ready to start drafting" an accord that outlines specific steps to be taken.

details by Friday, the last scheduled round of the current talks.

The upbeat comments suggested that negotiators in Geneva were mov-

would start getting relief from sanctions that have hit its economy hard.

The talks are primarily focused on the size and output of Iran's enrichment

Historic typhoon bears down on the Philippines

Continued from front

Typhoon Haiyan's speed at landfall was expected to beat out Hurricane Camille, which was 305 kilometers per hour (190 mph) at landfall in the United States 1969, Masters said.

The only tiny bright side is that it's a fast-moving storm, so flooding from heavy rain — which usually causes the most deaths from typhoons in the Philippines — may not be as bad, Masters said.

"The wind damage should be the most extreme in Philippines history," he said. The storm later will be a threat to both Vietnam and Laos and is likely to be among the top five natural disasters for those two countries, Masters said. The storm is forecast to barrel through the Philippines' central region Friday and Saturday before blowing toward the South China Sea over the weekend,

heading toward Vietnam. The typhoon slammed into the eastern province of Samar. Another province devastated by an earthquake last month was in the path of the storm.



Filipino workers bring down a giant billboard along a busy highway as powerful Typhoon Haiyan bears down south of Manila, Philippines Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. Philippine officials say thousands of villagers, including those from a central province devastated recently by an earthquake, were evacuated due to the arrival of one of Asia's most powerful typhoons this year.

(AP Photo/Aaron Favila)

The storm was not expected to directly hit Manila further north. The lowest alert in a four-level typhoon warning system was issued in the flood-prone capital area, meaning it could ex-

perience winds of up to 60 kph (37 mph) and rain.

President Benigno Aquino III warned people to leave high-risk areas, including 100 coastal communities where forecasters said the storm surge could reach up to 7 meters (23 feet). He urged seafarers to stay in port. Aquino ordered officials to aim for zero casualties, a goal often not met in an archipelago lashed by about 20 tropical storms each year, most of them deadly and destructive. Haiyan is the 24th such storm to hit the Philippines this year. The president also assured the public of war-like preparations: three C-130 air force cargo planes and 32 military helicopters and planes on standby, along with 20 navy ships. "No typhoon can bring Filipinos to their knees if we'll be united," he said in a televised address. □

Obama says he's sorry Americans losing insurance

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama says he's sorry Americans are losing health insurance plans he repeatedly said they could keep under his signature health care law. But the president stopped short of apologizing for making those promises in the first place. "I am sorry that they are finding themselves in this situation based on assurances they got from me," he said in an interview Thursday with NBC News. He added: "We've got to work hard to make sure that they know we hear them, and we are going to do everything we can to deal with folks who find themselves in a tough position as a consequence of this." The president's apology comes as the White House tries to combat a cascade of troubles surrounding the rollout of the health care law often referred to as "Obamacare." The healthcare.gov website that was supposed to be an easy portal for Americans to purchase insurance has been riddled by technical issues. And with at least 3.5 million Americans receiving cancellation notices from their insurance companies, there's new scrutiny aimed at the way the president tried to sell the law to the public in the first place. Much of the focus is on the president's promise that Americans who liked their insurance coverage would be able to keep it. He repeated the line often, both as the bill was debated in Congress and after it was signed into law. But the measure itself made that promise almost impossible to keep. It mandated that insurance coverage must meet certain standards and that policies that fell short could no longer be sold except through a grandfathering process, meaning some policies were always expected to disappear. The White House says under those guidelines, fewer than 5 percent of Americans will have to change their coverage. □

ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — A new video that surfaced Thursday showed Toronto Mayor Rob Ford threatening to "murder" someone and "poke his eyes out" in a rambling rage, deepening the conviction among both critics and allies that he is no longer fit to lead North America's fourth largest city. The mayor told reporters moments after the video was posted online that he was "extremely, extremely inebriated" in it and "embarrassed" by it. The context of the video is unknown and it's unclear who the target of Ford's wrath is. The video, which appeared at length on the Toronto Star's website and in clips on the Toronto Sun's website, prompted another round of calls for Ford to step down. The controversy surrounding Ford escalated last week when police announced they had obtained a different, long-sought video that shows Ford smoking a crack pipe. After months of evading the question, Ford admitted Tuesday to smoking crack in a "drunken stupor" about a year ago. Despite immense pressure, the mayor of Canada's financial capital has refused to resign or take a leave of absence.

New video emerges of ranting Toronto mayor

Ford, who is married with two school age children, said Thursday he made mistakes and "all I can do is reassure the people. I don't know what to say." "When you are in that state ... I hope none of you have ever or will ever be in that state," said Ford, who is 44. "It's extremely embarrassing. The whole world is going to see it." In the new video, a visibly agitated Ford paces around, frantically waves his arms and rolls up his sleeves as he says he'll "make sure" the unknown

person is dead.

Ford tells another person in the room, possibly the man filming the video, that he wants to "kill" someone in an expletive-laced rant. "Cause I'm going to kill that (expletive) guy," Ford says. "No holds barred brother. He dies or I die." At one point he says "My brothers are, don't tell me we're liars, thieves, birds" and then later refers to "80-year-old birds." The Toronto Star said that it purchased the video for \$5,000 from "a source who filmed it from someone

else's computer" and the paper said it was told "the person with the computer was there in the room." City Councillor James Pasternak urged Ford to make a "dignified exit." "The video is very disturbing," he said. "It's very upsetting, it's very sad." City Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti, a Ford ally, urged the mayor to enter rehab and said in a statement he fears "that if the mayor does not get help now he will succumb to health issues related to addiction." □



City of Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, right, walks to address the media outside his office in Toronto on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. A new video surfaced showing Ford in a rage, using threatening words including "kill" and "murder." Ford said he was "extremely, extremely inebriated" in the video, which appeared Thursday on the Toronto Star's website. The context of the video is unknown and it's unclear who the target of Ford's wrath is.

(AP Photo/Nathan Denett)

Pakistan:

Taliban's new leader planned attack on teen activist

DECLAN WALSH
© 2013 New York Times

LONDON — In a surprise choice, the Pakistani Taliban said Thursday that it had appointed as its new leader the commander responsible for last year's attack on Malala Yousafzai, the teenage Pakistani education activist. The acting head of the Taliban, Asmatullah Shaheen, told journalists in North Waziristan, a tribal area that is a haven for militants, that the governing council had chosen Mullah Fazlullah, the leader of a Taliban faction in the northwestern

Swat Valley, to succeed Hakimullah Mehsud, who was killed in a U.S. drone strike last Friday. Pakistani intelligence officials confirmed that Fazlullah had been chosen following almost a week of deliberations by the Taliban shura, or governing council, in North Waziristan. He was a surprise choice because the two previous leaders of the Pakistani Taliban belonged to the Mehsud tribe of South Waziristan, another militant hub in the tribal belt. Fazlullah, by contrast, has been widely reported in

recent years to be hiding in the mountains of Kunar and Nuristan provinces in eastern Afghanistan, from where he has orchestrated attacks inside Pakistan. Fazlullah is a militant leader of considerable notoriety with long experience in both battling the Pakistani government and occasionally negotiating with it. Having started his career as the operator of a chair lift that spanned a river, he rose to prominence in 2007 through a pirate radio station that broadcast jihadist propaganda across Swat, a picturesque valley in

northwestern Pakistan. Soon afterward, his armed fighters displaced the civil government. They instituted an authoritarian and often cruel rule that mandated public floggings, executions and the closure of girls' schools in the valley, which was once a favorite of honeymooning couples. Fazlullah also captured public attention by riding through the valley on a white horse, and by allying with militant clerics who ran the Red Mosque in the center of the capital, Islamabad. □

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Senate approves ban on anti-gay bias in workplace

JEREMY W. PETERS

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WASHINGTON - The Senate on Thursday approved a ban on discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation and gender identity, voting 64-32 in a bipartisan show of support that is rare for any social issue. It was the first time in the institution's history that it had voted to include gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the country's nondiscrimination law.

Despite initial wariness among many Republicans about the bill, 10 of them voted with 54 members of the Democratic majority to approve the measure.

But nothing is guaranteed in the House, where Speaker John A. Boehner has repeatedly said he opposes the bill. President Barack Obama hailed the Senate action and urged House Republican leaders to

bring the bill to the floor for a vote. "One party in one house of Congress should

day and simply be judged by the job they do," Obama said in a statement. "Now is

Harry Reid, the majority leader, said Thursday that "the time has come for

live, can go to work not afraid of who they are." He noted that a vast majority of Americans already thought such a law was in place. "Well, it isn't already the law," he added. "Let's do what the American people think already exists." Senate Republicans who voted against the bill, known as the Employment Nondiscrimination Act, were muted in their opposition. The first senator to rise and speak against the bill on the floor all week was Dan Coats of Indiana, who said Thursday morning that religious freedoms were at risk, despite the bill's broad exemption for religious institutions. Those exemptions, he said, did not go far enough. "We can't pick and choose when to adhere to the Constitution, and when to cast it aside," Coats said.

"The so-called protections from religious liberty in this bill are vaguely defined and do not extend to all organizations that wish to adhere to their moral or religious beliefs in their hiring practices." The bill includes a number of protections for religious entities, some of which were added this week to gain more Republican support. It now contains a provision that says no federal agency or state or local government that accepts money from the federal government can retaliate against religious institutions for not complying. This would include actions such as denying them tax-exempt status, grant money, licenses or certifications. □



Sens. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), center, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), left, and Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) during a news conference about the passage of the Employment Nondiscrimination Act in Washington, Nov. 7, 2013. (Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

not stand in the way of millions of Americans who want to go to work each

the time to end this kind of discrimination in the workplace, not enable it." Sen.

Congress to pass a federal law that ensures all citizens, regardless of where they

US court rules lesbian egg donor has parent rights

BRENDAN FARRINGTON

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Florida (AP)

— The Florida Supreme Court has ruled that a woman who donated an egg to her lesbian partner has parental rights to the child, and on Thursday it ordered a lower court to determine custody and visitation rights. The case involves two women, identified only by their initials, who began raising the child together. One donated an egg that was fertilized and implanted in the other, who gave birth in 2004. But the couple split up two

years later, and the birth mother eventually left the country. The other woman, who identifies herself as the biological mother, used a private detective to find her former partner in Australia, and a custody fight ensued. At issue is the 1993 state law meant to regulate sperm and egg donation and to prevent donors from claiming parental rights to a child born to another couple. In this case, however, the Supreme Court said the donor provided her egg as part of an agreement to parent the child together and she

acted as a parent after the child was born. Thus, the law doesn't apply. "It would indeed be anomalous if, under Florida law, an unwed biological father would have more constitutionally protected rights to parent a child after a one-night stand than an unwed biological mother who, with a committed partner and as part of a loving relationship, planned for the birth of a child and remains committed to supporting and raising her own daughter," the court wrote. Christopher Carlyle, a lawyer representing the

biological mother, said: "The case represents a recognition of the fundamental right a parent has to parent their child, regardless of that parent's sexual orientation or the manner by which the child is conceived. You had a unique situation where there was no intent of our client to donate this biological material and then be out of the picture. They obviously intended to raise the child together." The lawyer for the birth mother didn't immediately return a phone message left at his law office. □



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Report:

Internal Revenue Service refunded \$4B to identity thieves

STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. tax collection agency issued \$4 billion in fraudulent tax refunds last year to people using stolen identities, with some of the money going to addresses in Bulgaria, Lithuania and Ireland, according to an inspector general's report released Thursday.

The agency, the Internal Revenue Service, sent a total of 655 tax refunds to a single address in Lithuania, and 343 refunds went to a lone address in Shanghai. In the U.S., more fraudulent returns went to Miami than any other city.

The IRS has stepped up efforts to fight identity theft, but thieves are getting more aggressive, said the report by J. Russell George, Treasury's inspector general for tax administration. Last year, the IRS stopped more than \$12 billion in fraudulent refunds from going to identity thieves, compared with \$8 billion the year before.

"Identity theft continues to be a serious problem with

devastating consequences for taxpayers and an enormous impact on tax administration," George said in a

statement.

The fraud "erodes taxpayer confidence in the federal tax system."

Thieves often steal personal government identification numbers, known as Social Security numbers, from

people who don't have to file tax returns, including the young, the old and people who have died, the report said.

In other cases, thieves use stolen Social Security numbers to file fraudulent tax returns before the legitimate taxpayer files.

The IRS, which takes pride in issuing quick refunds, often sends them out before employers are required to file forms documenting wages, the report said.

"The constantly evolving tactics used by scammers to commit identity theft continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing the IRS, and we take this issue very seriously," the IRS said in a statement.

"The IRS has a comprehensive and aggressive identity theft strategy that focuses on preventing refund fraud, investigating these crimes and assisting taxpayers victimized by it." Despite budget cuts, the agency said, agents have resolved more than 565,000 cases of identity theft this year, three times the number of cases resolved at the same time last year.

A separate report by George said the number of identity theft victims is on the rise as thieves get more aggressive.

Through June, the IRS identified 1.6 million victims who had their identities stolen during this year's tax filing season, the report said. That compares with 1.2 million victims in 2012. □



Photo shows the exterior of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) building in Washington. The IRS issued \$4 billion in fraudulent tax refunds last year to people using stolen identities, with some of the money going to addresses in Bulgaria, Lithuania and Ireland, according to a Treasury report released Thursday. The IRS sent a total of 655 tax refunds to a single address in Lithuania, and 343 refunds went to a lone address in Shanghai.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

US thief gets away with tons of nuts

ESCALON, California (AP) — Authorities in California are looking for the thieves who made off with 140,000 pounds (63,500 kilograms) of walnuts. The theft, estimated at nearly \$400,000, occurred

Sunday in the small town of Escalon.

Investigators say it was one of the biggest to hit the booming industry. Last month, about 12,000 pounds (5,440 kilograms) of walnuts worth \$50,000 were

stolen from a trailer parked on a highway.

This time several truckloads of walnuts were taken from the facility.

Authorities say rising prices — about \$2 per pound — is what appears to be driving

the recent walnut thefts. No arrests have yet been made.

Walnuts are California's fourth-leading agricultural export. China remains the world's leading producer of walnuts. □

US Financial Front:

Americans cut back on credit card use in September

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans cut back on using their credit cards in September for the fourth

straight month but boosted borrowing in the category that covers auto loans and student debt.

Consumers increased their borrowing by \$13.7 billion in

September to a seasonally adjusted \$3.05 trillion, the Federal Reserve reported Thursday. That is a record and follows a gain of \$14.2 billion in August.

The increase was driven entirely by higher borrowing for auto and student loans, which rose \$15.8 billion. Credit card debt fell \$2.1 billion following a decline

of \$885 million in August. The string of declines in credit card debt will likely hold back consumer spending, which accounts for 70 percent of economic growth. The measure of auto loans and student loans has risen 8.5 percent from a year ago and has increased in every month but one since May 2010. But credit card debt is essentially where it was a year ago. And it is 17.2 percent below its peak hit in July 2008 — seven months after the Great Recession began. Slow job growth and small wage gains have made many Americans more reluctant to charge goods and services. But at the same time, the weak economy is persuading more people to go back to school to learn new skills. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York quarterly report on consumer credit shows student loan debt has been the biggest driver of borrowing since the Great Recession officially ended in June 2009. □



Customers exit a Dollar General store, in San Antonio. The Federal Reserve reported how much consumers borrowed in September on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013, citing a cutback in credit card use for a fourth straight month.

(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

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UK spy bosses: Al-Qaida is loving Snowden leaks

CASSANDRA VINOGRAD
RAPHAEL SATTER
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Al-Qaida and other terror groups are having a field day with the leaks from former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, U.K. spy chiefs told lawmakers Thursday in a strong condemnation of the American's espionage revelations.

Iain Lobban, chief of the eavesdropping agency GCHQ, said his spies have picked up "near-daily discussion" of the unauthorized disclosures among his agency's targets. His colleague John Sawers, the chief of the British foreign spy agency MI6, was even more explicit.

"It's clear that our adversaries are rubbing their hands in glee," he told lawmakers. "Al-Qaida is lapping it up."

U.S. officials have repeatedly warned, without providing much evidence, that the leaks were edu-

cating America's enemies about how to avoid detection.

Lobban came closest to giving a concrete example, saying that GCHQ had caught terror groups in the Middle East and elsewhere discussing how to switch to more secure means of communication after the Snowden leaks broke.

"I am not going to compound the damage by being specific in public," he said, promising lawmakers a private briefing on the details.

The fact that Lobban was even speaking publicly at all was highly unusual.

He, Sawers and Andrew Parker, head of MI5, Britain's domestic spying agency, were at Parliament for their first public and televised testimony before the House of Commons' Intelligence and Security Committee.

Their appearance — broadcast with a brief time delay in case anything classified unexpect-

edly came out during testimony — comes amid an international debate over British and American intelli-

gencing parliamentarians that their work was both legal and proportionate.

"We do not spend our

time listening to the telephone calls or reading the emails of the majority," said Lobban. □



In this image taken from TV, Andrew Parker head of Britain's domestic security agency MI5 gives evidence as the heads of Britain's intelligence agencies face UK lawmakers to give televised testimony for the first time in public, in London Thursday Nov. 7, 2013.

(AP Photo / Parliamentary Recording Unit)

gence tactics triggered by Snowden's revelations.

All three spy chiefs insisted their agencies operate within the law, guarantee-

Ousted Egypt president's family sees him in prison

MAGGIE MICHAEL
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — The family of Egypt's toppled president visited him in prison on Thursday, their first face-to-face contact with him since a popularly-backed military coup ousted him from power four months ago, his wife said.

Naglaa Ali told The Associated Press by phone that she and other family members met with Mohammed Morsi inside a maximum-security prison called Borg al-Arab, which sits in a remote desert area near Alexandria, Egypt's second city.

Ali said the visit, monitored by security officers, lasted one hour.

"Thank God, it's just like I saw him yesterday. ... He is

more steadfast and bold," she told the AP when asked about his condition.

A high-ranking Interior Ministry official later told the AP that Morsi was warned not to send any secret messages through his conversation with his family. The official said Morsi was told violating that rule would see restrictions placed on his visits.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity as details of Morsi's detention were not to be made public.

However, Morsi's son Osama later told Qatar-based satellite news channel Al-Jazeera Mubashir Misr that Morsi sent a message to the Egyptian people "to uphold the revolution." □



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Congo rebels, after giving up struggle, are disarmed

NICHOLAS KULISH

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NAIROBI, Kenya - The Ugandan military has begun the process of disarming large numbers of rebels from the neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo, a military spokesman said Thursday.

The rebel group, known as M23, announced Tuesday that it was giving up its armed struggle, marking a significant turning point in the 20-month conflict that had brought renewed violence to eastern Congo. The decision came after more than a week of rapid advances by the Congolese army, supported by U.N. forces, which drove M23 out of territory it had controlled for more than a year.

Capt. Ronald Kakurungu, military spokesman for the western region of Uganda, said that 1,365 members of M23 had surrendered to Ugandan forces.

"We are receiving and disarming them," he said.

The surrenders were a sign that the group was carrying out its stated position to end its violent rebellion

we are still counting them and categorizing them," Kakurungu said. "Everybody had a weapon."

tani Makenga, was among those who had crossed into Uganda and turned themselves in to the authorities

among the surrendering troops. Beyond that, a man claiming to be Makenga, reached on a Congolese mobile phone belonging to him, called news of his surrender "false reports" and "rumors," saying that he was still in Congo.

U.N. experts have accused Uganda of helping to support the M23 revolt in its vast, mineral-rich neighbor. The Ugandan government has strongly denied those claims. The Ugandan capital of Kampala has played host to peace talks between the Congolese government and M23.

The rebel group's last major stronghold, Bunagana, was on the border between Congo and Uganda. The United Nations reported Tuesday that 10,000 people had fled the fighting into Uganda.

"There are justifiable fears that there will be reprisal attacks on M23 and those who supported them," said Timo Müller, field researcher in eastern Congo for the Enough Project.

The Ugandans said they planned to move M23 soldiers farther from the scene of the conflict.

"We will relocate them to an area south of where they are now because it is not safe to keep them at the border," Kakurungu said.

The end of the M23 rebellion does not spell the end of fighting in eastern Congo. There are dozens of armed groups operating in the region, and new revolts have sprung up in the wake of those that have been suppressed or settled.

"It only takes in eastern Congo a small batch of rebels that are resilient and can live off the forest to exert damage on the local population," Müller said.



Congolese commandos celebrate as they advance up the mountainous road toward Bunagana, the last remaining stronghold of the M23 rebels, Oct. 30, 2013. The feared rebel group in the Democratic Republic of Congo, M23, announced this week that it was laying down its arms immediately, in a major development that held out hope of a new era of peace and stability in the violence-racked region.

(Pete Muller for the New York Times)

and demobilize its fighters. "They came with a big number of weapons, but

There were some news reports that the group's military commander, Gen. Sul-

there. But two spokesmen for the Ugandan military said he had not been seen

Military base bombings, attacks in Iraq kill 30

SAMEER N. YACOB

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — A series of attacks in Iraq, including a double suicide car bombing targeting a military base, killed 30 people across the country Thursday, officials said.

The deadliest attack took place when the two suicide bombers drove their explosive-laden cars into a military base in the town of Tarmiyah late Thursday, killing at least 19 soldiers and wounding 41, authorities said.

Soldiers guarding the base opened fire on the first car bomber as he approached, but he still was able to detonate his explosives against a gate at the

facility, police said. Two minutes later, the second suicide bomber rammed his car through the gate and exploded when he reached a crowd of soldiers who gathered after the earlier blast, police said.

Tarmiyah, a former insurgent stronghold home to Sunnis, is about 50 kilometers (30 miles) north of Baghdad. Last week, two suicide bombers detonated their explosives-laden belts among a group of soldiers and Sahwa militiamen gathered in the orchard of a local Sahwa leader, killing 12, authorities said at the time.

The Sahwa movement, also known as the Awaken-

ing Council, was formed by U.S. forces in 2007 to help fight the insurgents during the height of Iraqi war. Ever since, it has been a target for Sunni hard-liners who consider them traitors. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the dual car bombing Thursday. Suicide bomb attacks against security forces are a favorite tactic of al-Qaida's local branch. The terror group has recently escalated its campaign of violence in order to thwart government efforts to maintain security. Earlier Thursday, police said a bombing at a tent serving food to pilgrims on their way to Karbala, killed four people and wounded

six, police said.

Before that, officials said a suicide bomber detonated an explosive-laden car at an army post, killing three soldiers and wounding six in the town of Ana, some 330 kilometers (200 miles) northwest of Baghdad. Police said another bomb blast killed two persons in a town just south of Baghdad.

In the northern city of Mosul, police said a bomb struck an outdoor market Thursday evening, killing two people and wounding eight. Hospital officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to speak to journalists.

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US documents raise questions on Munich art hoard

DAVID RISING
KIRSTEN GRIESHABER
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — U.S. military documents are deepening the mystery surrounding the more than 1,400 artworks found in a Munich

war coffer. American investigators at the time expressed doubts about Gurlitt's claims to the works, but they eventually decided that in most cases he was the rightful owner. So

The three paintings that the Americans returned to Cornelius' father in 1950 and which have showed up in the Munich trove are Max Liebermann's "Two Riders on the Beach;" Otto Dix's self-portrait and an al-

apartment were paintings, drawings, engravings, woodcuts and prints by Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Oskar Kokoschka, and leading German artists Dix, Liebermann and Ernst Ludwig Kirchner.

Prosecutors gave few further details about the overall collection. Still, they said they found evidence that at least one item in the Munich apartment — a Henri Matisse painting of a sitting woman — was stolen by the Nazis from a French bank in 1942.

Christoph Zuschlag, an art historian at the University of Koblenz, said the American documents indicated U.S. investigators suspected right after the war that Gurlitt may have been in possession of looted art.

He said if German authorities published a full list of the find at the apartment, then experts could determine more quickly whether Gurlitt was the rightful owner.

"As a historian, I have to say pictures and information about all the art has to

be published online immediately," he said. "A whole team of experts should work on this discovery and try to answer all the remaining open questions."

German prosecutors who are pursuing the tax case against Cornelius Gurlitt — whose whereabouts are currently unknown — said this week they had "concrete evidence" the artworks found in his apartment included both "degenerate art" seized from German museums and other works that may have been taken from individuals.

Museums, galleries and the heirs to those individuals, likely Jewish collectors forced to give up or sell their art at rock-bottom prices, could now have claims.

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which administers restitution claims from victims of Nazi crimes, said the quickest and most efficient way to clear up any doubts would be for prosecutors to release a complete list. □



Julian Radcliffe, left, chairman of the Art Loss Register gives instructions to a researcher in central London. Phones in these London offices have been ringing off the hook since the announcement that German authorities have discovered more than 1,400 artworks, some by modern masters such as Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, stacked in a Munich apartment.

(AP Photo/Lefferis Pitarakis)

apartment. In the chaotic aftermath of World War II, the American military seized 20 boxes of art from German dealer Hildebrand Gurlitt in Aschbach in December 1945, according to documents located by The Associated Press in the U.S. National Archives in Washington.

Gurlitt had worked closely with the Nazi regime in the 1930s to sell art it considered "degenerate" to fill its

on Dec. 15, 1950, the U.S. returned 206 items to him: 115 paintings, 19 drawings and 72 "various other objects."

At least three of the artworks documented by the Americans have now resurfaced, found hidden in the Munich apartment of Gurlitt's son, 80-year-old Cornelius Gurlitt, during a tax evasion probe that German prosecutors announced earlier this week.

legorical painting by Marc Chagall.

Also found in the son's

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EU sets deadline for Tymoshenko release

MARIA DANILOVA

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — The European Union has given the Ukrainian parliament a week to pass legislation allowing the release of jailed former premier Yulia Tymoshenko, if Kiev wants to sign a key integration treaty with the 28-country bloc, her allies said Thursday.

Tymoshenko is serving a seven-year term on abuse of office charges, which the West has condemned as

politically motivated. President Viktor Yanukovich and his allies in parliament have resisted that pressure to free her.

Olha Lappo, a spokeswoman for Arseniy Yatsenyuk, a top Ukrainian opposition leader and ally of Tymoshenko, confirmed reports that the EU envoys — former Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski and former European Parliament President Pat Cox — have told Ukrainian leg-

islators to adopt a law by Wednesday that would allow Tymoshenko to be flown to Germany for medical treatment.

Tymoshenko was convicted of abuse of office while negotiating a gas deal with Russia in 2009.

She insists she is innocent and accuses Yanukovich of ordering her imprisonment in order to bar her from challenging him in the 2015 presidential election.

The controversy has been a

key obstacle in the signing of an association agreement between the EU and Ukraine, which would establish a free-trade zone and bolster political and other ties.

Russia has strongly opposed Kiev's plan to sign the deal and has sought to lure Ukraine into a Moscow-led economic union instead, mixing promises of economic benefits with sanctions and threats. □

Belgian PM says retired king won't get more money

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — In these times of financial crisis, the question gripping Belgium is whether 923,000 euros (\$1.2 million) a year is enough to make a retired king happy.

Belgium's King Albert II stepped down last summer, and saw his annual public funding slashed from 11.5 million euros (\$15.4 million). Newspapers said on Thursday the 79-year-old former monarch sent out feelers for more taxpayer money to meet his bills, and the government was quick to refuse.

Prime Minister Elio Di Rupo, a red-blooded socialist of poor immigrant background, told parliament that "the government does not intend to change a comma" in the royal stipend plan, eliciting warm applause from government parties and opposition alike.

Belgium's royal family has been involved in several financial scandals over the past few years and its standing when it comes to money matters has been undermined.

The Le Soir paper based its story on unnamed sources and the royal palace did not return calls seeking comment or confirmation. Though royal matters were once treated with solemnity in parliament, Thursday's session had a sense of Barnum about it, as one legislator after another salted their speeches with barbs to argue against any increase. "Can you imagine, three vacation homes — one in Paris, one in Rome, and one on the French Riviera — and you have to do the upkeep," said lawmaker Jean-Marie Dedecker. "And now they put you on miserable pay of 923,000 euros. And you have to get there yourself without an army plane taking you there. Many of the objections relayed in parliament had their roots in the difficult economic conditions in Belgium." □

ECB rate cut helps, won't transform economy

DAVID McHUGH

AP Business Writer

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— The European Central Bank sent a message Thursday with a surprise cut in its benchmark interest rate: It's prepared to do more to fortify the euro alliance's economy.

The question is: Will anything the ECB does be enough?

Thursday's quarter-point cut, to a record low of 0.25 percent, will go only so far. Economists say Europe's fundamental problems — shaky banks, slow growth and heavily indebted governments — need more support. And not just from the central bank.

"While the ECB's largely unexpected decision to cut interest rates was welcome, the central bank cannot address the deep-seated problems still facing the currency union," said Jonathan Loynes, chief European economist at Capital Economics. "A small cut in interest rates is not going to transform the economy." Governments need to reduce unemployment, which is at a record 12.2 percent across the eurozone and not forecast to drop for years. They also need to reform their economies to improve growth and reduce debt. Leaders, meanwhile, need to finish setting up an EU-wide oversight system for the banks and create an agency that can take on the costs of saving troubled lenders. To help fix the banks, the ECB will need to complete a yearlong review of their

balance sheets to reveal hidden weaknesses and strengthen their finances.

But those steps will take months, if not years, to have an effect. With its rate cut, the ECB did what it could to show it is ready to support the economy now. On Thursday, Draghi and the bank's governing

keeps people from spending as goods get ever cheaper. That's what happened in Japan, causing the country years of economic stagnation.

The rate cut highlights the diverging fortunes of the economies of Europe and the U.S., where the recovery has been stronger and

rate higher," she said.

A stronger euro not only hurts European growth by making exports more expensive but also pushes inflation down further by making imports less expensive, increasing the risk of deflation.

The immediate benefit of Thursday's cut was evident



The new headquarter of the European Central Bank is still under construction in the eastern part of Frankfurt, Germany, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. The ECB lowered its key interest rate to 0.25 per cent. (AP Photo/Michael Probst)

council were responding in particular to an alarming drop in inflation, to just 0.7 percent in October. The rate is far below the ECB's inflation target of 2 percent and a sign of weak demand in the economy.

Low inflation is not itself a disaster. But it's a nightmare if it turns into outright deflation, an economic death spiral in which a chronic, broad-based fall in prices

the Federal Reserve is preparing to tighten its monetary policy.

Marie Diron, senior adviser to Ernst & Young's, said the direct impact of the ECB's rate cut will be limited. But that needs to be measured against the cost of inaction. "No response to such low inflation would have been potentially very damaging as it could have sent the euro exchange

in a drop in the euro. Startled currency traders sent its exchange rate down 2 1/2 cents against the dollar after the decision, to around \$1.33.

The bank's willingness to move without waiting to tip markets ahead of time could enhance its credibility as the eurozone institution most able to act decisively, some economists said. □



**At Palm Beach Plaza:
“LIVE From The MET” comes to
Aruba on the big screen of
Caribbean Cinemas Megaplex 8**

PALM BEACH - What has been widely applauded by opera lovers worldwide since 2006, will now be available in Aruba. Starting this Saturday November 9th, Caribbean Cinemas Megaplex 8 at Palm Beach Plaza will present “LIVE from the MET” on the big screen, eight operas transmitted LIVE in HD from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York. This season features new

productions and some well re-known such as: Tosca, Cenerentola and La Boheme. An Encore (recorded) presentation of each opera will also be exhibited 10 days after the Live transmission. Single Show tickets will be available at Afl. 50 (Afl. 45 for Seniors), and Season Tickets will be available at Afl. 372 (Afl. 332 for Seniors), with taxes included.

Met opera stars serve as hosts for the HD series, conducting live interviews with cast, crew, and production teams, and introducing the popular behind-the-scenes features; altogether the worldwide HD audience is given an unprecedented look at what goes into the staging of an opera at one of the world's great houses. The Met: Live in HD, the world's leading provider of alternative cinema con-

tent, is now shown in more than 1,900 theaters in 64 countries, making the Met the only arts institution with an ongoing global art series of this scale. The Met was the first arts company to experiment as an alternative content provider, beginning on a modest scale in 2006. Since then, its program has grown every season, with more than 12 million tickets sold to date.

This HD season's stars include Ildar Abdrazakov, Roberto Alagna, Stephanie Blythe, Danielle de Niese, Joyce DiDonato, Renée Fleming, Juan Diego Flórez, Elīna Garanča, Vittorio Grigolo, Jonas Kaufmann, Isabel Leonard, Fabio Luisi, Ambrogio Maestri, Angela Meade, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Susanna Phillips, Luca Pisaroni, Matthew Polenzani, Patricia Racette and Dolora Zajick. □

Paseo Herencia to induct Aruba's Xander Bogaerts to the Walk of Stars!

PALM BEACH - Paseo Herencia is not just a shopping mall, offering the best places to eat and have a good time; it is a lot more than that. This mall also promotes Aruba's Culture introducing to the Community the "Walk of Stars". This "Walk of Stars" gives lo-

cal sport stars, entertainers and artists the opportunity to earn their name to be placed on this wall, where thousands of people can see that they are an example for the Aruban Community. The first person to be honored on this "Walk of Stars" will be Xander Bo-

gaerts, our World Champion of Baseball. Paseo Herencia in corporation with the Government of Aruba likes to invite the entire community of Aruba and visitors to our island to join them in this special event. The event where Xander Bogaerts will be honored



for a tremendous job done in the baseball world, will take place Friday afternoon at 6.30PM ☐



A super fun Halloween party at The Sopranos Piano Bar!



PALM BEACH - The Halloween party at The Sopranos Piano Bar was a blast: crowded with scary or funny visitors in great costumes, who loved to tease and frighten the other guests at the popular piano bar. Prizes for best costume were a round-trip ticket to Curaçao, a trip on the Jolly Pirates boat for two and two Kukoo Kunuku bustickets, with extra prizes of a bottle of Patron Silver and a bottle of Ketel 1. As pianoman Barry from Boston belted out his tunes, the eerie evening of October 31 became a wild, wild party which no one wished to leave early. DJ PTR took over and played his music, as the daily late night spe-

cial (2 drinks for the price of 1) until the wee hours, when all the ghosts had been laid to rest. The Sopranos Piano Bar can look back on a super, super Halloween night. The prize for best costume overall went to the local zombie apocalypse, while the second prize, the Jolly Pirates trip went to the skeletons. The bottle of Patron Tequila was for The Germans, who were the best couple. Best costume and scariest costume were the winners of a Kukoo Kunuku dinner and bar hopping trip and the Kukoo Kunuku pub crawl, respectively. The sixth prize winner won a bottle of Ketel 1 Vodka for super original costume. ☐

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“Hip Hip Hurray” for the fantastic Janice from her colleagues!



ORANJESTAD - Janice Póeran has been one of the friendly faces at Cafe the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace for the past eleven years. Her big smile was legendary and it was with great sorrow that she had to leave the restaurant which had become her second home. Her reason for leaving, however, was fantastic: she finished her law study, hereby making her dream of becoming a lawyer come true. Wow, Janice, well done! Janice is now working at Tundruk, the firm of solicitors Arlene Schippers and Rick Samuels and her colleagues are super proud of her and wish her well. Photo shows Janice getting her degree - hip, hip hurray! □



Augustino and Josephine Cammalleri honored at La Cabana Beach Resort!



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple who are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Distinguished Visitor, at the La Cabana Beach Resort. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Augustino and Josephine Cammalleri from New York City. Augustino and Josephine are Loyal mem-

bers of the La Cabana, and they love Aruba for the climate, beaches, restaurants and they always say that Aruba truly is One Happy Island and La Cabana is a wonderful Resort. The Cammalleri couple brought their daughter Debbie and her husband Anthony on this trip with them to Aruba. The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Charine Charles representing the La Cabana Beach Resort. □



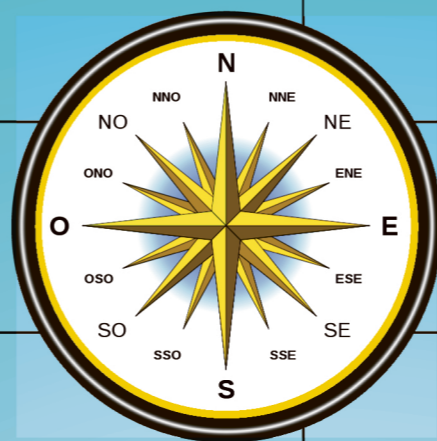
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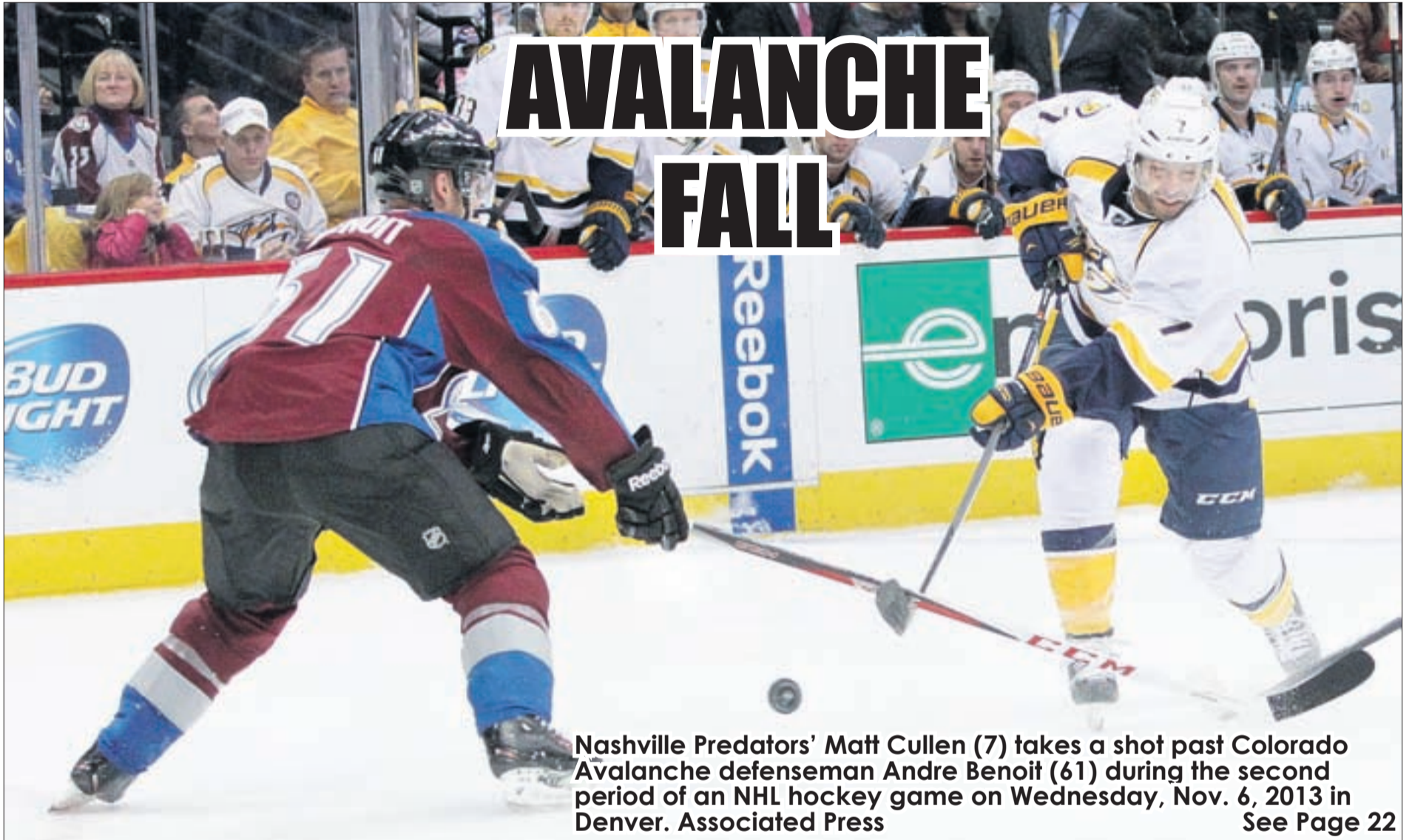
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Nashville Predators' Matt Cullen (7) takes a shot past Colorado Avalanche defenseman Andre Benoit (61) during the second period of an NHL hockey game on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013 in Denver. Associated Press
See Page 22

Djokovic advances to ATP Finals semis

SAMUEL PETREQUIN
AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Defending champion Novak Djokovic joined top-ranked Rafael Nadal in the semifinals of the ATP World Tour Finals after overcoming strong resistance from Juan Martin del Potro on Thursday. Djokovic, undefeated in last year's Finals, improved to 2-0 in Group B with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win over the hard-hitting Argentine. Djokovic defeated Roger Federer in his opening match. Federer made light work of Richard Gasquet to clinch his first round-robin win, defeating the Frenchman 6-4, 6-3 to boost his chances of making the semifinals for an 11th time. "With his serve it's defi-

nately a big advantage if I can get a break advantage and close it out," said Djokovic, who saved two break points early in the decider before taking del Potro's serve for a 4-2 lead. "I'm very glad I could win." Nadal qualified from Group A on Wednesday when he beat Stanislas Wawrinka to clinch the season-ending No. 1 ranking for the third time in his career. Djokovic and del Potro couldn't reproduce their epic Wimbledon semifinal. The in-form players of the autumn exchanged brutal groundstrokes early on, with Djokovic coming out on top of long rallies. Playing more accurately and trying to shorten the points, del Potro soldiered



Novak Djokovic of Serbia plays a return to Juan Martin Del Potro of Argentina during their ATP World Tour Finals tennis match at the O2 Arena in London, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. Associated Press

on in the second set and was rewarded for his patience as he converted his first break point of the set in the sixth game thanks to a lucky net cord. The former U.S. Open winner then held his next two service games to force a third set. In the third game, del Potro had 15-40 after Djokovic's first double fault of the match. The Serb saved the first break point with an ace and del Potro wasted the other with a botched forehand. The episode sapped del Potro's morale and he lost his serve at love in the sixth game. It was decisive. In a match pitting together two stylists, Federer and Gasquet were ordinary.

Continued on Page 20

Frazier statue finds new life 2 years after death

DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Joe Frazier's statue has found new life on the two-year anniversary of the former heavyweight champion's death.

Frazier's statue was set to be erected by spring 2014 at an entertainment complex near Philadelphia's three sports stadiums near the now-demolished Spectrum, an arena where he fought.

Plans to place the Frazier tribute in the same complex that is already home to the statues of NBA great Julius Erving and the Stanley Cup champion Broad Street Bullies were side-tracked when the sculptor commissioned by a city panel to create the statue, Lawrence J. Nowlan, died in August.

Philadelphia sculptor Ste-

phen Lane has picked the project off the mat and was selected to create a piece that should be finished by the end of next year.

Frazier died on Nov. 7, 2011 after a brief battle with liver cancer at the age of 67.

Philly boxer Bernard Hopkins was among the prominent boosters who helped the city reach its \$150,000 fundraising goal for the statue.

"Smokin' Joe" slugged his way to the heavyweight title in 1971 by becoming the first boxer to beat Muhammad Ali. They fought two more classic bouts, including 1975's "Thrilla in Manila." Frazier lost both rematches.

Lane is set to get started on the 9-foot (2.7-meter) statue he based off a photo of Frazier's knockdown of Ali.

"He just threw that Philly

left hook and knocked Ali down," Lane said on Thursday. "That's the moment I thought was quintessential Joe. It was the big deal of his career."

The Frazier memorial might finally quiet critics who have long derided the city for showering more brotherly love on fictional movie fighter Rocky Balboa than on a real champion. A "statue" of Rocky — it's actually a movie prop left over from "Rocky 3" — stands beside the steps of the Philadelphia Art Museum.

Weatta Collins, Frazier's daughter, was glad her father's statue would serve as a permanent reminder of all he did for the city and boxing.

"As long as people remember him," she said, "that would be a blessing. We're pretty grateful." □



In this undated photo provided by Richard Hayden, a maquette of a planned statue of Joe Frazier by Philadelphia sculptor Stephen Lane is displayed. Associated Press



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CASINO AND SHOPS

NBA Capsules

Perfect Pacers pull away late from Bulls 97-80

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Luis Scola, Donald Sloan and Lance Stephenson accounted for all the points in a decisive 12-2 run, thwarting a late charge by the Chicago Bulls and helping the Indiana Pacers, the NBA's last unbeaten team, to an 97-80 victory Wednesday night.

The Pacers have won their opening five games for the first time since 1971-72. Paul George had 21 points and six rebounds to lead Indiana, while David West had a season-high 17 points and 13 rebounds.

Luol Deng and Derrick Rose scored 17 points each to lead Chicago (1-3). Rose scored only three points in the second half.

THUNDER 107, MAVERICKS 93

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kevin Durant had 23 points and 10 assists and Russell Westbrook scored 22 points as Oklahoma City pulled away in the second half to beat Dallas.

Serge Ibaka added 17 points and 13 rebounds for the Thunder (3-1), who won their second straight game following Westbrook's return from two offseason knee surgeries.

Jeremy Lamb added 13

points for Oklahoma City, which has won 11 straight games against the Mavericks, including the playoffs. The last loss for the Thunder against Dallas was on Jan. 2, 2012.

Monta Ellis led the Mavericks (3-2), who were playing their second game in two nights, with 20 points. Jae Crowder and Shawn Marion added 17 each, while Dirk Nowitzki finished with 16.

SPURS 99, SUNS 96

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tony Parker scored 15 of the Spurs' final 16 points, helping San Antonio withstand a hectic finish to beat Phoenix.

Parker scored 20 overall, Danny Green had 19 points, Tim Duncan added 17 points and Boris Diaw 11 points for San Antonio (4-1).

Markieff Morris tied a career high with 23 points and also had 11 rebounds for Phoenix (3-2). Morris' twin brother, Marcus, added 11 points and Gerald Green and Miles Plumlee each had 15.

Plumlee's reverse layup gave Phoenix a 96-95 lead with 1 minute remaining. The Suns had an opportunity to extend the lead following a miss by Duncan,



Indiana Pacers guard Lance Stephenson, right, goes past Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose for a shot in the second half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013. The Pacers defeated the Bulls 97-80.

Associated Press

but Manu Ginobili drew a charge on Danny Green. Parker followed with a short jumper to give San Antonio the lead for good.

Gerald Green missed a

3-pointer at the buzzer that would have tied the game.

CELTICS 97, JAZZ 87

BOSTON (AP) — Brandon Bass scored 20 points and Jeff Green added 18 as

the Celtics beat Utah for their first win of the season. The game reunited new Celtics coach Brad Stevens with Gordon Hayward, the Butler star who took the Bulldogs to the NCAA championship game against Duke. Hayward had 28 points and nine rebounds for Utah (0-5), one of the last two winless teams in the NBA this season.

The attendance of 17,130 was about 1,500 fans short of a sellout, ending a streak of 289 games dating to the end of the 2006-07 season. Derrick Favors scored 10 points with 14 rebounds and Enes Kanter scored 22 with eight boards for the Jazz, who open a season with five straight losses for the first time since 1974, when they were still in New Orleans. Gerald Wallace had nine points and nine rebounds for Boston (1-4), which led by as many as 25 points in the third quarter before Utah scored 17 of the first 20 in the fourth to cut a 22-point deficit to single digits.

WARRIORS 106, TIMBERWOLVES 93

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Klay Thompson scored 19 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter and Harrison Barnes scored 14 points in his season debut to help Golden State defeat Minnesota.

David Lee had 22 points and 15 rebounds and Andre Iguodala scored 20 points for the Warriors (4-1). Kevin Love had 25 points, 16 rebounds and six assists for the Timberwolves, who have lost two straight after a 3-0 start. Kevin Martin added 23 points, but the Wolves' bench was outscored 27-10.

Stephen Curry had just five points on 2-for-8 shooting with seven assists in 24 minutes and sat out the fourth quarter with a bone bruise on his left foot.

MAGIC 98, CLIPPERS 90

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Nik Vucevic had 30 points — including six free throws in the final 23 seconds — and 21 rebounds to help Orlando hold on to beat Los Angeles. □

ATP FINAL

Continued from Page 18

Federer quickly took control and broke Gasquet four times in the match. The Frenchman hit only 11 winners and looked inhibited throughout.

Federer, who has won a record six year-end championships, was not having a great day either — he had 30 unforced errors — but prevailed on important points as Gasquet converted only one of his six break chances. Federer needed five match points to earn his 43rd Finals win.

"It is a big win for me and hopefully I can keep it up in the next match against Juan Martin del Potro," said Federer, chasing only his second title of the year. "I'm coming back from

a lot of sort of ups and downs, resetting things, trying out things, making sure I get my confidence back, my movement and so forth."

Only once in his previous 11 Finals has Federer failed to advance to the last four. A win against del Potro on Saturday will guarantee him a spot in the semis, while Gasquet became the second player to be eliminated, following David Ferrer.

It was Federer's 11th win in 13 matches against Gasquet, who started by winning his first service game at love before fading.

The Finals are Federer's last chance to win a big tournament this season. He has won only one title in the past 14 months and has



Roger Federer of Switzerland plays a return to Richard Gasquet of France during their ATP World Tour Finals single tennis match at the O2 Arena in London Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013.

Associated Press

only three victories against top-10 opponents in 2013, including one against del Potro in Paris last week.

"I'm glad I got one back in Paris because I knew we could be again in the same group, we could be playing each other," Federer said. "I think that win

for me in Paris psychologically was very important. I could beat top-10 guys, I beat Richard, I beat Juan Martin last week. I truly believe my confidence is higher, and that's what I need to beat the best, and Juan Martin is part of that group honestly." □

Dynamo, Sporting KC to meet in conference final

HARRISON, New Jersey (AP)

— Omar Cummings scored in extra time to help the Houston Dynamo advance to the MLS Eastern Conference finals with a 2-1 upset victory over the league-leading New York Red Bulls. MLS RoundupSporting KC advanced to meet Houston in the conference final with a 3-1 win over the New England Revolution later Wednesday, with Claudio Bieler scoring the series-clinching goal in the 23rd minute of extra time.

Houston won the semifinal return leg 2-1 at Harrison three days after a 2-2 draw at home, advancing 4-3 on aggregate.

Cummings scored in the second minute of stoppage time last weekend to secure the draw for Houston in the first leg.

On Wednesday, he got his

foot on a ball that slipped past Red Bulls goalkeeper Luis Robles at the near post. The Red Bulls finished the regular season atop the standings and had leads in both semifinal games.

On Wednesday, Bradley Wright-Phillips scored in the 23rd minute to give New York the lead before Brad Davis equalized in the 36th. It remained locked at the end of regulation time and in extra time until Kofi Sarkodie crossed a ball into the box that was headed down by Cam Weaver. Cummings managed to get his foot on the ball and poke it past Robles for the clincher.

The Red Bulls dominated Houston during the regular season, winning all three head-to-head matches, and went into the semifinals on an eight-game unbeat-

en streak. But the Dynamo extended New York's play-off futility, making the Red Bulls winless in their past six playoff games.

At Kansas City, Bieler's extra-time goal capped Sporting Kansas City's 3-1 win on Wednesday.

The two-match, total-goals semifinal series went to extra time after defender Seth Sinovic scored for Sporting in the 79th minute, giving Kansas City a 2-1 advantage in its home leg and leveling the aggregate at 3-all. Aurelien Collin knocked in a deflection in the 41st minute for his second goal of the playoffs to give KC an early lead, but Dimitry Imbongo equalized with a header off a free kick in the 70th minute, putting the Revolution up 3-2 on aggregate with 20 minutes remaining. □



Montreal Impact MLS soccer team owner Joey Saputo, left, presents Impact's Marco Di Vaio with the player of the year trophy prior to an end of season press conference in Montreal, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013. The Houston Dynamo defeated the Impact in the Eastern Conference knockout round of the MLS Cup playoffs last week.

Associated Press

Girardi: Yanks must soon plan for A-Rod absence

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Yankees will make alternative plans for third base if Alex Rodriguez's grievance hearing isn't decided soon.

The players' association is trying to overturn a 211-game suspension given to the third baseman by Major League Baseball on Aug. 5 for alleged violations of its drug program and labor contract. Arbitrator Fredric Horowitz has presided over eight days of hearings, which are scheduled to resume on Nov. 18. It's unclear whether the hearings will finish that week. Once testimony is complete, lawyers for both sides will need time to file briefs, and Horowitz is expected to take several weeks to make his decision.

"It's important that we know, because if we're not going to have him we need to fill that void,"



In this Oct. 6, 2012 file photo, New York Yankees manager Joe Girardi, right, and third baseman Alex Rodriguez take part in baseball practice in Baltimore.

Associated Press

Girardi said on Thursday. "Hopefully, we'll know sooner than later."

The 38-year-old Rodriguez, a three-time MVP, missed most of last season following his second major hip operation. He returned the day his suspension was announced and hit .244 — his lowest average since 1995 — with seven homers and

19 RBIs in 156 at-bats.

Kevin Youkilis, signed to replace Rodriguez at third after the hip injury was diagnosed, had his own health problems. A bad back limited Youkilis to 105 at-bats, and he didn't play at all after June 13. He is among the 13 Yankees who became free agents last week. □

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NOVEMBER 7 - 13

NEW THIS WEEK!

ASA BUTTERFIELD | HARRISON FORD
ENDER'S GAME [PG-13]
MON - THURS 4:30 | 6:30 | 9:30
FRI 4:30 | 6:30 | 9:30 | 11:30
SAT 1:30 | 4:30 | 6:30 | 9:30 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 1:30 | 4:30 | 6:30 | 9:30

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA | JAIME CAMÉ
200 CARTAS
SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES [NR]
MON - THURS 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30
FRI 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:40
SAT 2:30 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:30

CHRIS HEMSWORTH | NADALIE PORTMAN
THOR
THE DARK WORLD
3D VERSION [PG-13]
MON - THURS 5:45 | 8:15
FRI 5:45 | 8:15 | 10:45
SAT 3:15 | 5:45 | 8:15 | 10:45
SUN & HOL 3:15 | 5:45 | 8:15
MON - THURS 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30
FRI 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 12:00
SAT 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30

ALSO SHOWING!

ORIS GRACE MORETZ | JAUANNE MOORE
CARRIE
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON - THURS 7:00 | 9:30
FRI - SAT 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 7:00 | 9:30

JOHNNY KNOXVILLE | JACKSON NICOLL
BAD GRANDPA
MON - THURS 4:50 | 7:00 | 9:10
FRI 4:50 | 7:00 | 9:10 | 11:20
SAT 2:40 | 4:50 | 7:00 | 9:10 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 4:50 | 7:00 | 9:10

DONN HALL GLEESON | RACHEL MCADAMS
about time
MON - THURS 4:20
FRI 4:20
SAT 1:50 | 4:20
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:20

TOM HANKS | BARKHAD ABDI
CAPTAIN PHILLIPS [PG-13]
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON - FRI 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:15
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:45 | 6:30 | 9:15

SYLVESTER STALLONE | ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
ESCAPE [R]
MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00
FRI 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00 | 11:30
SAT 2:00 | 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:00 | 6:30 | 9:00

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Review: New Kindle is strong challenge to iPad Air

By **ANICK JESDANUN**
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) -- On the heels of Apple's new, lighter iPad, Amazon has come out with a full-size tablet that weighs even less yet sports a sharper display and a lower price tag. Although Amazon's Kindle Fire HDX 8.9 hasn't received as much attention as the iPad Air, it is emerging as the strongest challenger yet to Apple's device.

The new Kindle shares many of the features found in a smaller version that came out Oct. 18.

A row of tabs at the top of the screen gives you quick access to Amazon services such as e-books, music, video and shopping. Recently used apps and content appear in the middle so you can return to them quickly. The bottom row has icons for frequently used apps such as email and the camera.

Need help? Just hit the "Mayday" button. You'll be connected within seconds to a live customer-service representative, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You see the representatives in a video box, but they can only hear you and see what's on

your screen. They can also help guide you by placing orange markers on your screen or taking control of your device completely.

I found all the reps to be patient as they walked me through attempts to locate a missing book, play a podcast and download items from the Dropbox storage service. In one case, the representative called my cellphone as promised an hour later to follow up. We never found a solution on Dropbox, though - but more on that later.

The best part of the new Kindle is its price. Amazon.com Inc. begins shipping it Thursday, starting at \$379. That's cheaper than the new \$399 iPad Mini, which has a display that measures 7.9 inches diagonally. The full-size Kindle Fire HDX has an 8.9-inch screen, just short of the iPad Air's 9.7 inches. Even cheaper is the 7-inch Kindle Fire HDX, which costs \$229.

If you can afford a \$499 tablet and aren't a heavy user of Amazon services, you might still consider the iPad Air.

Yes, the Kindle is lighter, at about 0.83 pound, or 17 percent less than the Air. But I couldn't really tell the difference holding the two



In this Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012, file photo, Jeff Bezos, CEO and founder of Amazon, at the introduction of the new Amazon Kindle Fire HD and Kindle Paperwhite personal devices, in Santa Monica, Calif. On the heels of Apple's new, lighter iPad, Amazon has come out with a full-size tablet that weighs even less yet sports a sharper display and a lower price tag.

Associated Press

side by side.

And yes, the Kindle has a sharper screen, with a resolution of 339 pixels per inch compared with the iPad's 264 pixels per inch. But I couldn't really tell the difference watching the Pixar cartoon "Monsters University" side by side.

Where the Air shines is in the build. I find the Air more pleasant to hold because of its curved edges. The Kindle has a soft, rubber-like back, but it doesn't make up for the boxy edges. The Kindle promises more battery life - at 12 hours, compared with 10 hours for the Air. But I found the two devices drained battery at roughly the same rate when watching Hulu streaming video.

In addition, the Air has access to a wide variety of apps available through Apple's app store. The Kindle uses a modified version of Android and can run a variety of Android apps - but not all of them. In fact, the new Kindle doesn't run all the Android apps that are supposed to work with Kindles, including the app for Dropbox. Many of these apps need to be updated every time a new Kindle device comes out, whereas they simply work when

new Android devices are out, just as iPad apps work on new iPads.

If you are drawn by the Kindle's price and don't mind the limited selection, though, the Kindle is a wonderful option. That's especially so if you're a frequent Amazon customer. The Kindle is tied to your Amazon account, making it easy to buy everything from audiobooks to vacuum cleaners with a click or two. You also get Amazon's recommendations for more things to buy, based on physical and digital purchases you've made on Amazon in the past.

With a \$79-a-year Amazon Prime membership, you also get quick access to thousands of free movies and television episodes and the ability to borrow one e-book a month from a select list. You can download the free Prime video to watch wherever you are. On older Kindle Fires and other devices, you're limited to streaming, which requires a constant Internet connection.

Another exclusive Kindle feature is called X-Ray. When you're reading a book, you get information about characters and places from Wikipedia

and other sources. When you're listening to music, you see lyrics for selected songs. When you're watching a movie or TV show, you get information on actors, character summaries and trivia. While watching "Monsters University," I particularly liked the callout to a pizza truck that appears in most Pixar movies. A little note pops up in the lower left corner.

I'll forgive the fact that it actually shows up during the wrong scene. I didn't get any supplemental material at all with the iPad.

Another thing I didn't get with the iPad is live help. I had trouble playing "Monsters University" on the iPad initially because I hadn't finished downloading it yet. I had to figure out on my own that I had to switch to a different app to do that. Both the iPad and the Kindle let you start watching as the download continues.

The new full-size Kindle is a great deal at \$379. It might even make a nice gift for your tech-challenged friends and relatives, as they can call Mayday rather than you. The Kindle isn't as good as the iPad Air, but it's an excellent choice for its price. □

Microsoft makes IE 11 browser work for Windows 7

REDMOND, Wash. (AP) -- Microsoft Corp. said Thursday that it has made its latest browser, Internet Explorer 11, available to users of Windows 7 machines.

The new browser had already been part of the Windows 8.1 upgrade the company released last month. The browser, avail-

able as a free download, improves the performance of websites that use JavaScript. Microsoft says the browser is 9 percent faster than Internet Explorer 10.

It also enables better 3-D graphics rendering in websites, allowing users to manipulate 3-D objects on-screen. □



US economic growth beat expectations in 3rd quarter

NELSON D. SCHWARTZ
© 2013 New York Times

Bolstered by inventory investments and a narrowing trade deficit, the U.S. economy grew more quickly than had been expected in the third quarter, but economists warned that the gains could be fleeting.

At an annual rate of 2.8 percent, the pace of growth over July, August and September was the fastest since the third quar-

Berger added that, when inventories rise quickly, it tends to pull growth forward from future quarters, increasing the chances that the final quarter of 2013 could be disappointing. The inventory gain added nearly 1 percentage point to growth in the third quarter and accounted for much of the upside surprise. Indeed, even as Wall Street digested the report for the third quarter, which was delayed by last

month's partial shutdown of the federal government, worries about the fourth quarter were mounting. Many economists estimate that the shutdown, which began on Oct. 1 and lasted until Oct. 17, will reduce growth by between a quarter and half a percentage point in the final three months of the year. What's more, reduced government spending continues to weigh on the economy overall, as

across-the-board spending cuts imposed by Congress this year begin to bite. In the third quarter, federal spending fell by 1.7 percent, slightly faster than the decline in the second quarter.

One notable area of strength in the third quarter was the housing sector, which has been one of the brightest spots in an otherwise fitful recovery. Residential housing investment rose by 14.6 percent, a slight pickup from the already robust gains in the first half of the year.

Many experts have worried that housing and home building might cool because of the bump up in interest rates in the late spring and summer that is making mortgages more costly. But five years after leading the economy down, housing is helping keep it afloat.

In addition, while export growth slowed, import growth slowed even more, reducing the trade deficit and improving the economy's overall performance. Thursday's report is the government's first estimate for the change in gross domestic product in the

third quarter, and the two subsequent estimates are likely to be revised considerably as more data becomes available.

That is what happened in the first quarter of 2013. After an initial reading showing more healthy growth of 2.5 percent, the Commerce Department ultimately revised that down to a lackluster 1.8 percent pace because of lower spending by consumers and businesses than first thought.

In the case of the third quarter, economists will be watching closely for any sharp swings when the second estimate comes Dec. 5. In the meantime, the focus now shifts to Friday's report on unemployment and payroll changes in October, which was delayed by a week because of the shutdown.

Many economists expect the unemployment rate to rise from the 7.2 percent level recorded in September, as government furloughs take a toll, but payroll levels are a wild card since it is not clear how much an impact the shutdown has had on the private sector. □



Shipping containers stacked up at the Port of Los Angeles in California. The American economy grew at an annual rate of 2.8 percent in the third quarter, significantly better than economists had expected and the fastest pace this year. (Monica Almeida/The New York Times)

ter of 2012, the Commerce Department said Thursday. It was also well above the 2 percent level economists had predicted.

Still, some experts warned that the details of the report did not paint quite as rosy a picture as the headline number would suggest. "I was a little surprised by the overall number, which was higher than expected, but most of that is traceable to the gain in inventories," said Douglas P. Handler, chief U.S. economist at IHS. "We are still looking at some serious issues in the fourth quarter."

For example, consumer spending in the third quarter increased by 1.5 percent, well below the 2.3 percent pace of the first quarter and the slowest advance since the second quarter of 2011.

"There's no reason to think there will be a takeoff," said Guy Berger, U.S. economist at RBS Securities.

Stocks close down on Fed, pullback worries

KEN STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter popped, but the rest of the market dropped. Twitter wowed investors with a 73 percent surge on its first day of trading Thursday. The broader market, however, had its worst day since August as traders worried that the Federal Reserve could cut back on its economic stimulus. The cause of that worry was a surprisingly strong report on U.S. economic growth in the third quarter. That led investors to believe the Fed could start pulling back as soon as next month, sooner than many anticipated. After 33 record-high closes this year, an increasing number of investors believe the stock market has become frothy and is ready for a pullback. The

SWEET

first-day surge in Twitter, a company that has never made a profit, was the latest example.

"The market had rallied a heck of a lot and to justify further gains, we really need to see the economy improving or corporate earnings picking up," said Alec Young, global equity strategist with S&P Capital IQ.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 23.34 points, 1.3 percent, to 1,747.15. Even after Thursday's drop, the index is still up 22.5 percent this year. The last time the benchmark index had a bigger gain for a whole year was in 2009.

The Dow Jones industrial average retreated from the record high it set the day before, giving up 152.90 points, or 1 percent, to close at 15,593.98.

The Nasdaq composite lost 74.61 points, or 1.9 percent,

to 3,857.33.

Twitter soared \$18.90 to \$44.90. Twitter priced its initial public offering Wednesday night at \$26 per share. What got traders concerned about a pullback by the Fed was a report from the government early in the day that the U.S. economy expanded at an annual rate of 2.8 percent in the third quarter, up from 2.5 percent in the previous quarter and more than economists anticipated.

The robust growth "certainly raises the possibility of the Fed pulling back in December," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital. "The Fed is going to test the water."

The Fed is buying \$85 billion of bonds every month to hold down interest rates and encourage hiring and borrowing. The program has also helped drive the

stock market rally by lowering bond yields, making them less appealing to investors.

Another key economic report comes out on Friday, the government's jobs survey for October. Economists forecast that U.S. employers added 122,000 jobs, down from 148,000 the month before, reflecting a 16-day partial shutdown of the federal government.

The jobs report "has people a little on edge" said Erik Davidson, deputy chief investment officer of Wells Fargo Private Bank. "We're expecting a modest number but it's really hard to say what the impact of the government shutdown will be."

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.60 percent from 2.64 percent. □

Twitter shares soar in dazzling market debut

BARBARA ORTUTAY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Shares of Twitter went on sale to the public for the first time Thursday, instantly leaping more than 70 percent above their offering price in a dazzling debut that exceeded even Wall Street's lofty hopes.

By the closing bell, the social network that reinvented global communication in 140-character bursts was valued at \$31 billion — nearly as much as Yahoo Inc., an Internet icon from another era, and just below Kraft Foods, the grocery conglomerate founded more than a century ago.

Twitter, which has never turned a profit in the seven years since it was founded, worked hard to temper expectations ahead of the IPO, but all that was swiftly forgotten with the stock's opening surge.

The most anticipated initial public offering of the year was carefully orchestrated to avoid the glitches and eventual letdown that surrounded Facebook's first appearance on the Nasdaq 18 months ago.

Trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "TWTR," shares opened at \$45.10, 73 percent above their initial offering price.

In the first few hours, the stock jumped as high as \$50.09. Most of those gains held throughout the day, with Twitter closing at 44.90, despite a broader market decline.

The narrow price range indicated that people felt it was "pretty fairly priced," said JJ Kinahan, chief strategist at TD Ameritrade.

The immediate price spike "clearly shows that demand exceeds the supply of shares," said Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter.

Earlier in the day, Twitter gave a few users rather than executives the opportunity to ring the NYSE's opening bell. The users included actor Patrick Stewart, who played Captain Jean-Luc Picard in "Star Trek: The Next Generation"; Vivienne Harr, a 9-year-old

girl who ran a lemonade stand for a year to raise money to end child slavery; and Cheryl Fiandaca of the Boston Police Department. Twitter raised \$1.8 billion Wednesday night when it sold 70 million shares to select investors for \$26 each. Had it priced the stock at \$30, for instance, the company would have taken away \$2.1 billion.

At \$35, it would have reaped nearly \$2.5 billion. "In hindsight, when you look at this, you almost think they left a little too much money on the table," Ent-

ner said.

Named after the sound of a chirping bird, Twitter's origins date back to 2005, when creators Noah Glass and Evan Williams were trying to get people to sign up for Odeo, a podcasting service they created. Odeo didn't make it.

By early 2006, Glass and fellow Odeo programmer Jack Dorsey began work on a new project: teaming with co-worker Christopher "Biz" Stone on a way to corral text messages typically sent over a phone.

It was Glass who came

up with the original name Twtr. The two vowels were added later. The first tweets were sent on March 21, 2006.

By 2007, Twitter was incorporated with Dorsey as the original CEO and Williams as chairman. Dorsey and Williams would eventually swap roles.

Both remain major shareholders, though neither runs the company. Glass, meanwhile, was effectively erased from Twitter's history, writes New York Times reporter Nick Bilton in "Hatching Twitter: A true story of

money, power, friendship, and betrayal."

Since those early days, the site has attracted world leaders, religious icons and celebrities, along with CEOs, businesses and countless marketers and self-promoters.

The company tried to avoid the trouble that plagued Facebook's high-profile debut, which was marred by technical glitches. As a result, the Securities and Exchange Commission fined Nasdaq \$10 million, the largest ever levied against an exchange. □



The New York Stock Exchange trading floor is crowded with traders and journalists on the morning of Twitter's public stock debut, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013 in New York. Shares of Twitter went on sale to the public for the first time Thursday, instantly leaping more than 70 percent above their offering price in a dazzling debut that exceeded even Wall Street's lofty hopes.

(AP Photo/New York Stock Exchange)

As profit dips, Siemens plans share buyback

FRANKFURT, Germany - Siemens, the German engineering and electronics giant, said Thursday that its profit fell 10 percent in the quarter ended Sept. 30 as sales dipped and the company booked restructuring costs. But Siemens' chief executive, Joe Kaeser, promised a 15 percent increase in per-share earnings during the coming 12 months, driven in part by a planned share buyback. Siemens said that net profit

for its final fiscal quarter fell to 1.1 billion euros, or roughly \$1.5 billion, from 1.2 billion euros a year earlier. Sales fell 1 percent to 21.2 billion euros, in part because of a sharp decline in the United States, where the company had trouble completing projects on time for customers in the metals industry. The earnings come after a difficult year for one of Germany's signature companies, which is often seen as a bellwether for the na-

tion's industrial sector.

Kaeser was named chief executive in July after his predecessor, Peter Löscher, resigned under pressure as he faced problems such as losses in the solar power business and difficulty connecting a new offshore wind park in the North Sea to the electrical grid.

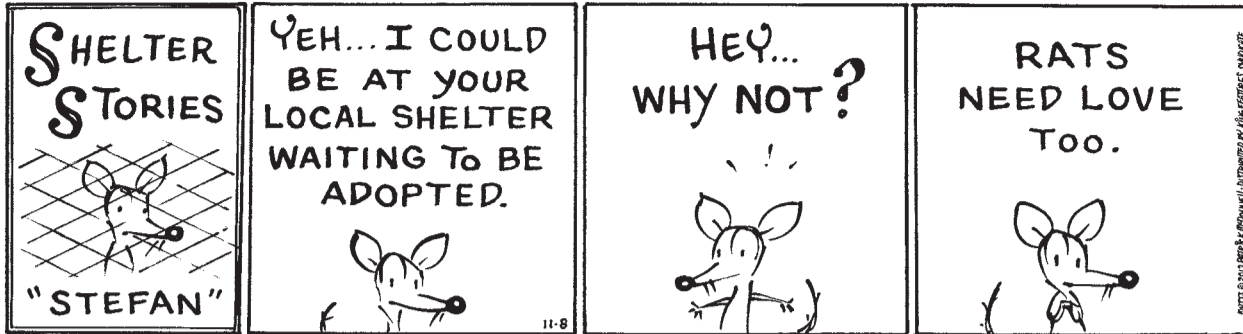
During a news conference in Berlin, Kaeser, who previously was the company's chief financial officer, conceded that management

had made mistakes.

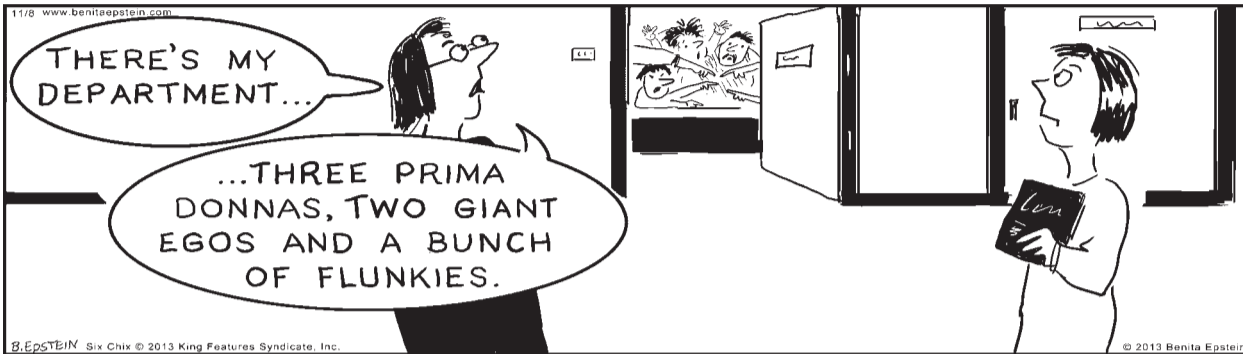
"We can and will be much better," he said. Siemens said it would buy back as much as 4 billion euros worth of its own shares.

The reduction in the total number of shares, along with a rebound in profit from operations, will increase earnings per share by 15 percent compared with the 5.08 euros that Siemens reported in the 2013 fiscal year, the company said. □

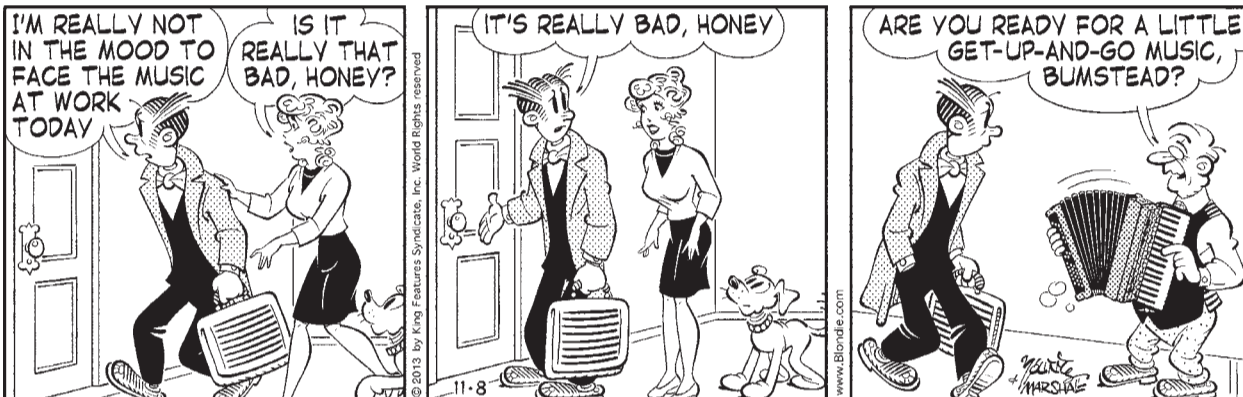
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			2	4		6		
	5						2	
9				7				
				6				7
3		1				4		6
5				9				
				8				3
	1						9	
		6		2	5			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/08

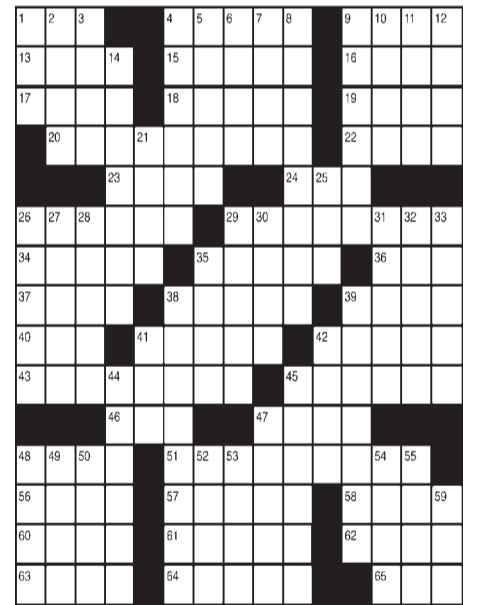
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	5	6	3	9	7	4	2	8
7	4	2	8	6	1	9	5	3
3	8	9	4	2	5	6	7	1
5	2	3	6	8	4	1	9	7
4	7	1	2	5	9	3	8	6
6	9	8	1	7	3	5	4	2
8	1	5	7	4	6	2	3	9
2	6	4	9	3	8	7	1	5
9	3	7	5	1	2	8	6	4

ACROSS

- 1 Encountered
4 Zeal
9 Title of old for Russian rulers
13 Test
15 Sierra ____;
African nation
16 "Biggest Little City in the World"
17 Peru's capital
18 Freeway divisions
19 Zone
20 Easiest to cut, when it comes to steak
22 Out of ____; on a trip
23 Excavates
24 "Roses ____ red, violets..."
26 Blazing
29 Fatherly
34 Cowboy shoes
35 ____ up; cleaned a spill
36 Commotion
37 Egg on
38 Repaired
39 Biblical book
40 Zoom down snowy slopes
41 Cartoon cat
42 USNA newbie
43 Increase in intensity
45 Edge
46 Pupil transport
47 Chaste
48 Playwright Hart
51 Muttering much
56 Crash ____; ram
57 Human ____;
person
58 Profound
60 Remnant of an old wound
61 Knight's spear
62 2013, for one
63 Southern Slav
64 Go into
65 Withered
- DOWN
1 Tillis or Tormé
2 Way out



Thursday's Puzzle Solved

RENO	SHRUB	SLIM
USED	TEASE	TALE
SPED	RACETRACKS	
END	GIVE	AREAS
	LEAKY	HIE
STEPPE	WONDER	
OASIS	STABS	LAB
DISC	RHINO	MEMO
ALL	SHAPE	LAMPS
	SYSTEM	CARESS
	PEA	LIKEN
COCOA	FACE	TOP
EXHILARATE	DANE	
NEAL	CAMEL	ORES
TNTS	EMERY	CYST

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- 38 Doable
39 "So soon?"
41 Respiratory bug, for short
42 Harbor town
44 Soak up
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47 ____ de León
48 Feel the loss of
49 A single time
50 Celebrity
52 Cruel
53 Half-quart
54 Have to have
55 Rip
59 Use a crowbar

Arafat's mysterious death becomes a whodunit

JOHN HEILPRIN
MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH
Associated Press
RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)

— Yasser Arafat's mysterious 2004 death turned into a whodunit Thursday after Swiss scientists who examined his remains said the Palestinian leader was probably poisoned with radioactive polonium.

Yet hard proof remains elusive, and nine years on, tracking down anyone who might have slipped minuscule amounts of the lethal substance into Arafat's food or drink could be difficult.

A new investigation could also prove embarrassing — and not just for Israel, which the Palestinians have long accused of poisoning their leader and which has denied any role.

The Palestinians themselves could come under renewed scrutiny, since Arafat was holed up in his Israeli-besieged West Bank compound in the months before his death, surrounded by advisers, staff and bodyguards.

Arafat died at a French military hospital on Nov. 11, 2004, at age 75, a month after suddenly falling violently ill at his compound. At the time, French doctors said he died of a stroke and had a blood-clotting problem, but records were inconclusive about what caused that condition.

The Swiss scientists said that they found elevated traces of polonium-210 and lead in Arafat's remains that could not have occurred naturally, and that the timeframe of Arafat's illness and death was consistent with poisoning from



Palestinians walk past a mural depicting late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at Shati Refugee Camp, in Gaza City, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. Swiss scientists have found evidence suggesting Yasser Arafat may have been poisoned with a radioactive substance, a TV station reported on Wednesday, prompting new allegations by his widow that the Palestinian leader was the victim of a "shocking" crime. Arabic reads, "the leader Abu Ammar, you are in our hearts, your sun will not go down."

Associated Press

ingesting polonium.

"Our results reasonably support the poisoning theory," Francois Bochud, director of Switzerland's Institute of Radiation Physics, which carried out the investigation, said at a news conference.

Bochud and Patrice Mangin, director of the Lausanne University Hospital's forensics center, said they tested and ruled out innocent explanations, such as accidental poisoning.

"I think we can eliminate this possibility because, as you can imagine, you cannot find polonium everywhere. It's a very rare toxic substance," Mangin told The Associated Press.

Palestinian officials, including Arafat's successor, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, had no comment on the substance of the report but promised a continued investigation.

The findings are certain to revive Palestinian allegations against Israel, a nuclear power. Polonium

can be a byproduct of the chemical processing of uranium, but usually is made artificially in a nuclear reactor or a particle accelerator.

Arafat's widow, Suha, called on the Palestinian leadership to seek justice for her husband, saying, "It's clear this is a crime." □



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Russian fireball shows meteor risk may be bigger

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists studying the terrifying meteor that exploded without warning over a Russian city last winter say the threat of space rocks smashing into Earth is bigger than they thought. Meteors about the size of the one that streaked through the sky at 42,000 mph (67,600 kph) and burst over Chelyabinsk in February — and ones even larger — are probably four, five or even seven times more likely to hit the planet than scientists believed before the fireball, according to three studies published Wednesday in the journals *Nature* and *Science*.

That means about 20 million space rocks the size of the Chelyabinsk one may be zipping around the solar system, instead of 3 million, NASA scientist Paul Chodas said at a news conference. Until Chelyabinsk, NASA had looked only for space rocks about 100 feet wide and bigger, figuring there was little danger below that.

This meteor was only 62 feet (19 meters) across but burst with the force of 40 Hiroshima-type atom bombs, scientists say. Its shock wave shattered thousands of windows, and its flash temporarily blinded 70 people and caused dozens of skin-peeling sunburns just after dawn in icy Russia. More than 1,600 people in all were injured.

Up until then, scientists had figured a meteor causing an airburst like that was a once-in-150-years event, based on how many space rocks have been identified in orbit. But one of the studies now says it is likely to happen once every 30 years or so, based on how often these things are actually hitting.

By readjusting how often these rocks strike and how damaging even small ones can be, "those two things together can increase the



This photo provided by The Field Museum in Chicago, taken April 9, 2013, shows pieces of a meteor that exploded over Russia's Ural Mountains in February after they were catalogued on their arrival at the Chicago museum. The museum received nearly two pounds of small meteorite pieces donated by a collector.

risk by an order of magnitude," said Mark Boslough, a Sandia National Lab physicist, co-author of one of the studies.

Lindley Johnson, manager of NASA's Near Earth Object program, which scans the heavens for dangerous objects, said the space agency is reassessing what size rocks to look for and how often they are likely to hit. It also looking into how the government should react if an asteroid is headed for Earth. In addition, NASA this fall reactivated a dormant orbiting telescope called WISE specifically to hunt for asteroids, Johnson said. And the agency is expanding ground-based sky searches that might give a few extra days' notice of smaller meteors like the Russian one.

At the same time, NASA and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are looking into the need for evacuations in the case of an immediate threat and how to keep the public informed without scaring people.

Those issues came up af-

ter the two agencies quietly held a disaster drill last spring in Washington that was meant to simulate what would happen if a space rock slightly bigger than the Chelyabinsk one threatened the East Coast. During the drill, when it looked as if the meteor would hit just outside the U.S. capital, experts predicted 78,000 people could die. But when the mock meteor ended up in the ocean, the fake damage featured a 49-foot (15-meter) tsunami and shortages of supplies along the East Coast, according to an after-action report obtained by The Associated Press.

The exercise and the studies show there's a risk from smaller space rocks that strike before they are detected — not just from the giant, long-seen-in-advance ones like in the movie "Armageddon," said Bill Ailor, a space debris expert at the Aerospace Corporation who helped coordinate the drill.

"The biggest hazard from asteroids right now is the city-busting airbursts, not

the civilization-busting impacts from 1-kilometer-diameter objects that has so far been the target of most astronomical surveys," Purdue University astronomer Jay Melosh, who wasn't part of the studies, wrote in an email. "Old-fashioned civil defense, not Bruce Willis and his atom bombs, might be the best insurance against hazards of this kind." Chodas said the Chelyabinsk rock surprised astronomers because it was coming from the direction of the sun and was not detectable. Telescopes can see some space rocks that are as small as 3 feet (1 meter) wide, but some are simply too dark to spot, he said.

Scientists said a 1908 giant blast over Siberia, a 1963 airborne explosion off the coast of South Africa, and others were of the type that is supposed to happen less than once a century, or in the case of Siberia, once every 8,000 years, yet they all occurred in a 105-year timespan.

Because more than two-thirds of Earth is covered

with water and other vast expanses are uninhabited deserts and ice, other past fireballs could have gone unnoticed.

Just this week, NASA got a wake-up call on those bigger space rocks that astronomers thought they had a handle on, discovering two 12-mile (20-kilometer)-wide asteroids a 1.2-mile (2 kilometer)-wide one that had escaped their notice until this month. However, NASA said the three objects won't hit Earth.

Asteroids are space rocks that circle the sun as leftovers of failed attempts to form planets billions of years ago. When asteroids enter Earth's atmosphere, they become meteors. (When they hit the ground, they are called meteorites.)

The studies said the Chelyabinsk meteor probably split off from a much bigger space rock.

What happened in the Russian city of 1 million people is altering how astronomers look at a space rocks. With first-of-its-kind video, photos, satellite imagery and the broken-up rock, scientists have been able to piece together the best picture yet of what happens when an asteroid careens into Earth's atmosphere. It's not pretty.

"I certainly never expected to see something of this scale or this magnitude," said University of Western Ontario physicist Peter Brown, lead author of one study. "It's certainly scary." Scientists said the unusually shallow entry of the space rock spread out its powerful explosion, limiting its worst damage but making a wider area feel the effects. When it burst it released 500 kilotons of energy, scientists calculated.

"We were lucky. This could have easily gone the other way. It was really dangerous," said NASA meteor astronomer Peter Jenniskens, co-author of one of the papers. "This was clearly extraordinary. Just stunning." □



This image released by Nickelodeon shows, from left, Penny Marshall, Jennette McCurdy, Ariana Grande and Cindy Williams in a scene from the series "Sam & Cat."

Associated Press

Penny Marshall, Cindy Williams together again

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Penny Marshall and Cindy Williams play feuding ex-TV partners on an episode of Nickelodeon's "Sam & Cat," but they brush aside any comparison to their past.

The former "Laverne & Shirley" stars, who back in the day of their 1976-83 sitcom were reported to have crossed swords, said they were never enemies and remain friends despite lingering suggestions to the contrary.

"That was rumors. Any show you work on for eight years, you're gonna argue at some point," said Marshall. "Way overblown."

Williams agreed, but added a bit of detail.

"Yes, it was a bit overblown," she said. The actress added that she and Marshall have "very different personalities" with contradictory styles of working, which sometimes led to on-set clashes.

That said, Williams regularly visits Marshall's house to watch and discuss TV. There's a chill in the air, Williams said, but only because Marshall keeps her thermostat turned down and, to compensate, provides

down coats and blankets for guests.

Marshall, whose big-screen directing credits include "A League of Their Own" and "Big," is busy working on a documentary about provocative ex-NBA player Dennis Rodman. But she and Williams were enticed by "Sam & Cat" creator Dan Schneider to guest star on the comedy airing at 8 p.m. EST on Saturday.

"He loved our show," Williams said. "He wanted to do a little tribute."

In the episode, Sam (Jennette McCurdy) and Cat (Ariana Grande) face having to rename their baby-sitting business because it's similar to "Salmon Cat," a faux 1970s TV show. The young women track down the show's creators (Marshall and Williams) and try to dissolve their enmity.

In another Nickelodeon reunion, "Happy Days" creator Garry Marshall (brother of Penny Marshall), makes a guest appearance on "See Dad Run" starring Scott Baio, a cast member on the 1974-84 sitcom starring Henry Winkler and Ron Howard.

The "See Dad Run" episode airs 8 p.m. EST on Sunday. □

Stars align for telethon to aid U.S. veterans

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Connie Francis, Alan Alda and Joe Mantegna are joining forces to help raise money for veterans suffering the wounds of war.

The trio will host the Homeward Bound telethon to benefit victims of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. The four-hour event, airing at 7 p.m. EST Sunday on the Military Channel, is a fundraiser for several charities.

Other celebrities set to participate include Mark Harmon and other "NCIS" cast members, Kevin Spacey, Jason Bateman, Lou Diamond Phillips, Gloria Loring and James Brolin. Scheduled performers include the American Military Spouses Choir, Patti Austin, Michael Feinstein, Ben Vereen and Steve Tyrell.

"This is a 45-year-old dream for me," said Francis, who entertained troops during the Vietnam War. A telethon was needed then but the social climate wasn't receptive to aiding veterans, the singer-actress said.

The Homeward Bound telethon came together after she gave a speech two years ago criticizing the lack of help for injured veterans and caught the attention of businessman Leonard Wilf, an owner of the Minnesota Vikings NFL team, Francis said. She and Wilf joined with producer Bruce Charet to establish the Haven From the Storm Foundation for veterans.

Money raised by the telethon will be donated to charities that provide services and support to servicemen and women and their family members coping with war's aftermath, including the American



This Oct. 8, 2013 file photo shows actor Joe Mantegna, a cast member on "Criminal Minds," at the CBS Daytime After Dark event in West Hollywood, Calif.

Associated Press

Red Cross and Wounded Warrior Project, telethon organizers said. Gary Smith, whose credits include the Tony and Emmy Awards ceremonies, is the executive producer.

Francis, who said she endured a dark period in which she required mental health care, is focusing on victims of PTSD and the high rate of military suicides. She said she wants to erase the stigma of mental illness for those who have served as well as civilians.

In 2012, the U.S. military suffered the highest number of suicides ever recorded, prompting then-Defense Secretary Leon Panetta to declare it an epidemic.

The telethon will also stream live online and be rebroadcast on the Armed Forces Network on Veterans Day on Monday. The event's first two hours will air Sunday on stations PIX11 in New York, WGN Chicago and KTLA Los Angeles. □

Spanish pop sensation Sanz awarded Berklee honor

TRACEE HERBAUGH

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) —

Spanish pop sensation Alejandro Sanz stepped into a music school for the first time Wednesday and received an honorary doctorate degree from one of the world's foremost institutions devoted to his craft.

Sanz accepted the honor from Berklee College of Music in Boston before more than 1,200 people who had packed the school's performance center for the sold-out event. A group of 40 students performed his music.

The Madrid artist has sold more than 23 million albums

worldwide and received numerous Latin Grammy and Grammy awards. Sanz said that when he first heard he would receive the honor, he was delighted but thought someone wasn't thinking straight.

"I was very happy but I thought they were crazy," Sanz said. "But I wanted to learn about the school. It's my first time inside a music school, and I was very happy to get to know the students."

The school reserves the honor for artists who have the overwhelming respect of their peers. He joins the ranks of Duke Ellington, Steven Tyler, Melissa



Alejandro Sanz reacts after receiving an honorary doctor of music degree from Berklee College of Music in Boston, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013.

Associated Press

Etheridge and other music superstars. □

Judi Dench brings Bond character M back from dead

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The head of the intelligence service where James Bond works has returned from the dead. Played by Judi Dench, M was killed off in the most recent Bond adventure, "Skyfall." But Dench resurrected the character in a video released Thursday as part of the Weinstein Co.'s appeal to the Motion Picture Association of America to change the rating of Dench's latest starring vehicle, "Philomena."

The MPAA has given the film an R rating for language, but the Weinstein Co. wants it changed to PG-13. The short video opens with Dench in M's office, saying, "Just when you thought I was dead." She then appears to send an agent on a mission,



This Oct. 17, 2013 file photo shows British actress Judi Dench at the Globe Theatre in central London, for a Gala evening in support of a new indoor theatre, the candle-lit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse.

Associated Press

asking, "Are you familiar with MPAA?" "Philomena" is set for release later this month. □

Amy Tan tells sweeping tale in new book

KIM CURTIS
Associated Press

The prolific and award-winning Amy Tan has delivered yet another sweeping tale of mothers and daughters that spans continents and generations. "The Valley of Amazement" begins in Shanghai in the early 1800s where she introduces readers to Lucia Minturn, who owns a high-end courtesan house, and her daughter, Violet, who grows up there among the women and their customers. Through choice — or perhaps by accident — Violet ends up abandoned in Shanghai while her mother sets sail for San Francisco. Left with few options, Violet reinvents herself as a wealthy and much sought-after half-white, half-Chinese courtesan.

As she learns and later plies her trade, Tan brings to life a world with which few are familiar. And it's fascinating. Her descriptions of the

countryside, of the houses, of the lifestyle and the customers are well-drawn and multi-layered. Her characters are brought to life as three-dimensional, complicated people.

The only distraction from the near-perfect pacing is the occasional overwrought language — particularly when it comes to sex and intimacy: "We conjoined and separated, conjoined and separated, so that we could have the joy of looking into each other's eyes before falling into each other again."

Then again, the language may sound awkward only to modern ears.

Readers also may find themselves wondering throughout "The Valley of Amazement" whether they hadn't already read this book. It covers no new ground and offers no surprises, but in Tan's skilled hands that doesn't detract from the joy of reading it. □

The rough road to 'Armstrong Lie'

JESSICA HERNDON
AP Film Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) —

When Alex Gibney set out to make a movie about cyclist Lance Armstrong's 2009 Tour de France comeback, the documentarian admits he bought into the hype: The man who'd cheated death was coming back to reign supreme — and clean.

"All of us fans wanted to believe," said Gibney, who directed this summer's well-received documentary "We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks." "You want to root for people. That is what sports are all about."

In fact, it was such a positive project, Armstrong himself was a financial participant. Then in 2011, things changed. The "feel-good movie," as Gibney called the original version, was nearly finished when Armstrong's ex-teammates, Tyler Hamilton and Floyd Landis, began going public about Armstrong's doping.

That same year, Armstrong faced a U.S. government investigation into doping allegations. Then in 2012, a federal Anti-Doping Agency report alleged Armstrong and his U.S. Postal Service-sponsored team used performance-enhancing drugs. It had become all too clear — Gibney needed to change the fabric of his film. What had been titled "The Road Back" became "The Armstrong Lie," which opens Friday.

"It was a lie that was hiding in plain sight," said Gibney. "But you don't want to doubt."

Suspicions about Armstrong's drug use actually began to surface in 2005, after former Armstrong teammate Frankie Andreu and his wife, Betsy, testified in a lawsuit about a drug confession they heard Armstrong make while hospitalized in 1996 during his bout with cancer. (Armstrong later did his best to ostracize Frankie Andreu from the cycling world.)

"Most of the facts had been revealed a long time ago," said Gibney in a recent interview at a Beverly Hills hotel. "The question was if they had been revealed, then how did Lance maintain that they weren't true? That is what the film is about."

Sitting with Oprah Winfrey in January of this year, Armstrong admitted to using performance-enhancing drugs to win the Tour de France



In this Sept. 9, 2013 file photo, director Alex Gibney attends the press conference for "The Armstrong Lie" on day 5 of the Toronto International Film Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox, in Toronto. Though Armstrong has no plans to see the film -- he sent his representatives instead, confirms Gibney -- Armstrong will get a kickback from the film's proceeds. "When the original deal was made with Sony, Lance had a financial participation," said Gibney.

Associated Press

seven times, titles that have since been revoked. Gibney was there as the interview was shot and insisted that Armstrong come clean in front of his camera, too.

"A long interview was hard to get in the wake of Oprah because that interview hadn't done for him what he wanted it to do," said Gibney. "He wanted his fans back. It didn't work out that way. But I was moving forward with other people like Betsy (Andreu, who appears in the film). I think that was the reason he ultimately agreed to sit down: He wanted to feel a sense of control over his story and he knew that without his voice, things might go worse."

"You have to call a fraud a fraud," said Betsy Andreu in a phone call from her home in Dearborn, Mich. "Lance tried to use cancer to shield himself, but in my opinion, that is how he got the cancer — using all of those drugs. Growth hormones fuel cancer" — a theory increasingly supported by medical research.

Has Armstrong tainted the cycling world forever? "That's the hard part," said Gibney. "We want (athletes) to be superhuman, but we are surprised when they dope."

That, to some extent, is where it falls back on us."

Though Armstrong has no plans to see the film — he sent his representatives instead — the disgraced cyclist will receive a small portion of the film's profits. "When the original deal was made with Sony, Lance had a financial participation," Gibney explained, thus entitling Armstrong to a back-

end deal with the new film. Last interviewed by cycling site Velo News, Armstrong said in an October article he will "pay a heavy price" for what he's done. But moving forward, he said, "Folks should expect the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

Through his spokesman, Armstrong declined to comment for this story. Will Armstrong ever confirm what the Andreus said they heard in the hospital room in 1996? When did Armstrong actually start doping? "He wouldn't tell me," said Gibney.

"We assumed Lance started using after cancer and then started winning the Tour de France, but we know he started using drugs back in 1993," said Gibney. "But if the drugs were so good, why couldn't he win the tour back then?"

And what about the speculation that Armstrong was in cahoots with the sanctioning body Union Cycliste Internationale, and the talk about doctored race times? Gibney said the questions still linger for him.

"There is an element that Lance is hinting at but hasn't come clean on, which is how the mechanism of the sport worked to keep his secret for so long," said Gibney. "He worked hand in glove with the UCI and sponsors. Everybody was getting paid" — a point also suggested in the film but yet to be proven.

We may never know the answers to these questions but Gibney says he never stopped pushing for answers while making his film, which has received high marks from most critics. □

Fixing The System



JOE NOCERA

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It's Election Day. Virginians are electing a new governor, New Yorkers are choosing a new mayor, and all over the country, dozens of local races are being decided. Because this is an off-year election, in which there are no federal races, voter turnout is going to be abysmal. We all know that.

In Australia, people who don't vote are fined. In the United States, people can go to jail for skipping jury duty, but there's no penalty for not voting. I'm not advocating either fines or jail - not today, anyway - but I've got five reforms in mind that could both invigorate the electorate and encourage more responsive, and less extreme, political candidates. Here they are, in no particular order:

Move elections to the weekend: Do you know why elections fall on a Tuesday in early November? I didn't either. According to a group called Why Tuesday?, it goes back to the 1840s, when "farmers needed a day to get to the county seat, a day to vote, and a day to get back, without interfering with the three days of worship." Today, of course, casting your ballot on a Tuesday is an impediment: lines in urban areas are long, people have to get to work, etc. It is especially difficult for blue-collar workers - aka Democratic voters - who don't have the same wiggle room as white-collar employees.

Chris Rock - yes, Chris Rock - has been quoted as saying that this is the reason Election Day remains on Tuesday. "They don't want you to vote," he said in 2008. "If they did, they wouldn't have it on a Tuesday." Even if you aren't conspiratorially minded, you have to admit that moving elections to the weekend makes a ridiculous amount of sense.

Term limits for the Supreme Court: Somewhat to my surprise, most of the experts I spoke to were against congressional term limits. Norman Ornstein, the resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, believes the unintended consequences of term limits would outweigh the benefits. (He cited, among other things, the likelihood that "they come to office thinking about their next job.")

Instead, Ornstein proposes term limits for Supreme Court justices. If he could wave his magic wand, he would give the justices one 18-year term, and he would

stagger them, so that a new justice joined the court - while another departed - every two years. Ornstein likes this idea, in part, because presidents would be willing to nominate older justices; now, the emphasis is on younger nominees who can remain on the court, and influence American society, for decades. I like the idea because nothing fuels partisan politics like a Supreme Court nomination. If the parties knew that there would be a new nominee every two years, it might lessen the stakes just a bit - and bleed some of the anger out of politics.

Open primaries: Why are so many extremist Republicans being elected to Congress? A large part of the reason is that highly motivated, extremist voters dominate the Republican primary system. Mickey Edwards, the former congressman who is now at the Aspen Institute, wrote a book last year called "The Parties Versus The People: How to Turn Republicans and Democrats Into Americans." At the top of his list of reforms is open primaries - which would allow anybody to vote for any candidate. Indeed, California has adopted an open primary system, in which the top two vote-getters run against each other in the general election - even if they are from the same party. As Adam Nagourney wrote in The Times a few weeks ago, this reform is one of the reasons California's Legislature has become less partisan and more productive. Chances are good that the same reform at the federal level would produce the same result.

End gerrymandering: As a tool to entrench the party in power, few maneuvers can beat gerrymandering. It's another reason the Tea Party Republicans can pursue an agenda most citizens disagree with: Thanks to gerrymandering, their districts could not be safer. Here, again, California offers a better model. It has a 14-person commission made up of five Democrats, five Republicans and four people unaffiliated with either party. In 2011, the new commission redrew lines in a way that broadened the diversity of many districts. That is exactly what should happen everywhere.

Bring back the small donor: There are few things more discouraging to voters than the power of big money, which asserts itself mainly in the form of super PACs. But New York City has shown how the small donor can matter again: It matches small donations 6-to-1. Thus, a contribution of \$100 would add \$600 to the candidate's coffers. According to a study by the Brennan Center for Justice at the NYU School of Law, this system creates more donor diversity, greater participation, and, not least, greater attention by the candidates to small donors.

Those are my five favorite ideas for fixing the system for elections. What are yours? Send your favorite ideas to NoceraBlog@nytimes.com. □



Hillary In 2016? Not So Fast



FRANK BRUNI

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Hillary Clinton, of all people, knows how political fortunes turn on a dime. But she must be puzzled nonetheless, and spooked, that over a six-month period when she made no big news whatsoever, her popularity took a double-digit tumble.

A poll released last week by NBC News and The Wall Street Journal charted the decline. It found that the percentage of Americans who view her favorably had dropped to 46 from 56. The percentage with unfavorable views had risen, less strikingly, to 33 from 29.

Here we go. The beginning of the end of her inevitability.

It's about time, because the truth, more apparent with each day, is that she has serious problems as a potential 2016 presidential contender, and the premature cheerleading of Chuck Schumer and other Democrats won't change that.

In the wake of the federal shutdown, in the midst of the Obamacare meltdown, voter disgust with business as usual is at the kind of peak that ensures more than the usual share of surprises in the next few elections. In one recent poll, 60 percent of Americans said that they'd like to see everyone in Congress, including their own representatives, re-

placed; in another, a similar majority hankered for a third party.

These unusually big numbers suggest a climate in which someone who has been front and center in politics for nearly a quarter-century won't make all that many hearts beat all that much faster. Voters are souring on familiar political operators, especially those in, or associated with, Washington. That's why Clinton has fallen. She's lumped together with President Barack Obama, with congressional leaders, with the whole reviled lot of them.

And some of the ways in which she stands out from the lot aren't flattering. She comes with a more tangled political history of gifts bestowed, favors owed, iron-clad allegiances and ancient feuds than almost any possible competitor does. We've had frequent reminders of that: in the Anthony Weiner saga; in reports of mismanagement at the Clinton Foundation; in coverage of Terry McAuliffe's bid to become Virginia's governor.

We've also had glimpses of the Clintons as an entrenched, entitled ruling class. To a degree that has turned off even some of the couple's loyalists, Bill and Hillary have been unabashed lately in their coronation of Chelsea as the Clinton in waiting, the heir to the throne.

They renamed the family's foundation to give her billing equal to theirs, with Hillary telling New York magazine that Chelsea's elevation was "in the DNA." They tug Chelsea onto pedestal after pedestal, tucking her into the folds of their own glory.

And it works. In an interview in September, Piers Morgan asked Bill Clinton whether Hillary or Chelsea would make the better president.

"Over the long run, Chelsea," Bill said. "She knows more than we do about everything."

Such dynastic musings square oddly with what's shaping up as an anti-establishment passage of American politics, and the Clintons' overexposure is a dicey fit

for the revved-up metabolism of the Twitter era, which wants next, more, new.

Hillary's shot at shattering the ultimate glass ceiling, an overdue milestone, might be newness enough. But would she be spared a potentially disruptive challenger from the left in the Democratic primaries? The ascent of Bill de Blasio and the cult fervor for Elizabeth Warren demonstrate an appetite right now for liberal firebrands.

And what would the argument for a Hillary presidency be? Something interesting happens when you ask Democrats why her in 2016. They say that it's time for a woman, that she'll raise oodles of dough, that other potentially strong candidates won't dare take her on. The answers are about the process more than the person or any vision she has for the country. There's no poetry in them. That's not good.

"Competence," said one prominent Democratic strategist, articulating Hillary's promise. "And by the end of Obama's second term, that may be more than enough."

She sailed high as secretary of state because, apart from Benghazi, she could and did position herself mostly above the partisan fray. The hellcat had become a cool cat, wearing shades instead of thick glasses, the meme of all memes. But nine months since she left that job, it's hard to pinpoint what, other than all those dutiful miles she logged, her legacy is. She has returned to her earth, and it's a fickle place.

One of the widely circulated nuggets from the just-published book "Double Down: Game Change 2012" is that Obama's advisers considered knocking Joe Biden off the ticket and putting Hillary on. The anecdote has been cast as an insult to Biden.

But he remained, because internal research apparently suggested that Obama wouldn't get a meaningful bump from the swap. What does that say about Hillary? □

US bans artery-clogging trans fat

MARY JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Heart-clogging trans fats were once a staple of the American diet, plentiful in baked goods, microwave popcorn and fried foods. Now, mindful of the health risks, the Food and Drug Administration is getting rid of what is left of them for good.

Condemning artificial trans fats as a threat to public health, the FDA announced Thursday it will require the food industry to phase them out.

Manufacturers already have eliminated many trans fats, responding to criticism from the medical community and to local laws. Even so, the FDA said getting rid of the rest — the average American still eats around a gram of trans fat a day — could prevent 20,000 heart attacks and 7,000 deaths each year. It will not happen right away. The agency will col-

lect comments for two months before determining a phase-out timetable. Different foods may have different schedules, depending how easy it is to find substitutes.

"We want to do it in a way that doesn't unduly disrupt markets," said Michael Taylor, FDA's deputy commissioner for foods. Still, he says, the food "industry has demonstrated that it is, by and large, feasible to do." Indeed, so much already has changed that most Americans will not notice much difference, if any, in food they get at groceries or restaurants.

A handful of other countries have banned them, including Switzerland and Denmark. Other countries have enacted strict labeling laws.

Scientists say there are no health benefits to trans fats. And they can raise levels of "bad" cholesterol, increasing the risk of heart disease, the leading cause of death

in the United States. Trans fats are widely considered the worst kind for the body's heart, even worse than saturated fats, which also can contribute to heart disease.

Trans fats are used both in processed food and in restaurants, often to improve the texture, shelf life or flavor of foods.

Though they have been removed from many items, the fats are still found in some baked goods such as pie crusts and biscuits and in ready-to-eat frostings that use the more-solid fats to keep consistency.

They also are sometimes used by restaurants for frying. Many larger chains have phased them out, but smaller restaurants may still get food containing trans fats from suppliers.

How can the government get rid of them? The FDA said it has made a preliminary determination that trans fats no longer fall in the agency's "generally



A rack of donuts is displayed at a Dunkin' Donuts franchise in Boston. Consumers wondering what food without trans fat will taste like, probably already know as food manufacturers began eliminating it years ago.

(AP Photo/Lisa Poole)

recognized as safe" category, which covers thousands of additives that

manufacturers can add to foods without FDA review. Once trans fats are off the list, anyone who wants to use them would have to petition the agency for a regulation allowing it, and that would likely not be approved.

The fats are created when hydrogen is added to vegetable oil to make it more solid, which is why they are often called partially hydrogenated oils. The FDA is not targeting small amounts of trans fats that occur naturally in some meat and dairy products, because they would be too difficult to remove and are not considered a major public health threat on their own.

Many companies have already phased out trans fats, prompted by new nutrition labels introduced by FDA in 2006 that list trans fats and by an increasing number of local laws, like one in New York City, that have banned them. In 2011, Wal-Mart pledged to remove all artificial trans fats from the foods the company sells by 2016. Recent school lunch guidelines prevent them from being served in cafeterias. □



Alexes Garcia makes cinnamon rolls for student's lunch in the kitchen at Kepner Middle School in Denver. The rolls are made using apple sauce instead of trans fats. Heart-clogging trans fats have been slowly disappearing from grocery aisles and restaurant menus in the last decade as nutritionists have criticized them and local governments have banned them. The Food and Drug Administration is now finishing the job as they announce Nov. 7, 2013, that it will require the food industry to gradually phase out trans fats, saying they are a threat to the health of Americans.

(AP Photo/Ed Andrieski)